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THE

MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

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OUR LONDON LETTER.

ENGLISH CROP PROSPECTS—THE AGRICULTURAL FAIR.

[From our Regular Correspondent.]

London, July 2nd, 1879.

Nothing was wanting, except the sunshine which might so reasonably have been expected in July, to render the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Kilburn the grandest and most successful exhibition of its kind ever witnessed. But summer apparently has yet to commence here. The cold winds and pelting rains, which are working such mischief all over the country, have done their worst to mar the extensive and costly preparations made for this great gathering; and unless bright skies and warm winds come—and come before many more November-like days intervene—the crop will be ruined and the Agricultural Show along with them. The world has not heretofore witnessed anything approaching the superb collection of agricultural implements gathered at Kilburn on this occasion. There are to be seen in one area, with more familiar and antique appliances of cerea, those modern inventions in their utmost perfection which have revolutionized the labor of fields. By nothing has human toil been so lightened and saved as by these ingenious appliances, which plough and sow, reap and bind and stack, thresh and winnow and perform nearly all the most elaborate operations of the fields by the Briarean arms of steam. The whole science of tillage may be studied this week at Kilburn, from its birth to its perfection, in the comparative museum of ancient and modern farm implements gathered there. Then there is a vast deal to be learned from the admirable display of useful stock-animals, not struggling to sustain loads of artificial fat and flesh, but healthy and natural—the kine and herds and cart-horses of the farm, the farmer's hackneys, the splendid Clydesdales,

the useful German breeds, the beautiful and docile Danish cattle, and many other interesting objects. For the sake of dairy arts alone, a visit to this most valuable display ought to be made by everybody who has to do with butter, cheese and milk. Here are to be viewed at pleasant work the dairymaids of France and Denmark, Holstein and Limburg vying with the well-known English "Kitty that carries the milking-pail;" and—given only tolerable weather—the show must have been such a success as would have sent back the countless foreigners who have come over to it full of admiration at the resources and rural energy of England.

The Prince of Wales gallantly defied the abominable weather on Tuesday morning last to give all the assistance he could to the Society of which he has been President; and Lord Beaconsfield, with British indifference to the elements, attended at the yard and inspected the great collection. There were not wanting thousands of votaries of the soil and the stock-yard to support these influential personages; and ladies, with the same dauntless fortitude that was evidenced at Ascot, defied the rain and the wind, nobly helping, at the cost of toilette and chaussure to sustain the enterprise.

The English manifest a great solicitude in the general efforts which they are thus prompting to render the Kilburn Exposition a success. This is the great celebration of the farming industries of the nation, and it no doubt cheers the English farmer to see that London and the kingdom generally care more than ever to know how he is getting on against all the heavy odds which the elements, the markets, and foreign competition conspire to create against him.

An English paper, speaking of the general agricultural depression, says:

"Our British agriculturist stands really in need of encouragement. Something happened on Tuesday last in the corn market which showed how overwhelming has become the supply of foreign grain. There had been a wet 1st of July—a good

reason after such weather for a rise in prices—and yet so large is the store of food-stuffs now poured into our ports that the price of wheat hardly improved at all. People tell the farmer that under such circumstances he should grow roots, hops, grass and what not; but these things want labor, time, and other advantages, and sunshine above all, of which the foreigner is always assured in his brighter climes."

Mr. Chaplin is about to move Parliament and her Majesty for a Royal Commission to inquire into the prevalent depression of agricultural prosperity. If such a proposal contains any lingering idea of a return to protection, or any other despairing suggestion all Englishmen of clear judgment shake their heads at it. But this appears out of the question, and, being so, they are of opinion that an inquiry into the circumstances of modern farming, addressed with wise directness to the main points of the problem, such as rent, rates, tithes, and restrictions upon the free expenditure of capital on the soil, might be productive of very considerable advantages, and would at all events, help the farmer to know "where the shoe pinches him."

The Duke of Cambridge in a speech on Tuesday, at the Mansion House, said:

"Agriculture is certainly very much depressed. Is this, however, the time when we should sit down and bewail our lot, and do nothing? On the contrary, the spirit of a great nation should be roused by such a state of things. It is the time above all others when every one should put his shoulder to the wheel, and not merely think of the good times gone by and of the bad times which have come. Let us think that the worst has come, and that now at last we may look forward to better times. The circumstances of the times will never be better if we go on despairing and desponding, the only way to make them better is to accept the difficulties of the present situation with a determination to see whether we cannot bring about an improvement."

Some experiments in growing sugar beets at Pikesville, this county, it is said, have produced 12 per cent. of saccharine matter. The seeds were brought from Germany, and it is understood future experiments will be made, with the prospect of inducing a number of German workmen settled in making sugar from the beet to come over and engage in that enterprise here. Nothing definite in the matter has yet been positively reached, although it is hoped that ultimately something will come of it.—*Balto. Co. Herald.*

Farm Work for September.

The suggestions we have to make this month are general rather than special. To the tobacco and cotton planter it is a very busy time, and also calls for steady employment on the part of the farmer. The root crops are to be kept free from weeds; white turnips to be sown; land to be fallowed and put in fine tilth for wheat; corn to be cut off and put in secure shocks; fodder to be saved, and wild grass in low-lands to be mown and made into coarse hay; buckwheat can be sown; fencing repaired and ditching can be carried on; white-washing should be extensively practiced; fallen fruit gathered and fed to the pigs or cattle. Any spare time that may occur, secure a supply of fuel for winter, that you may not be bothered to get it when gathering in the crops later in the season.

RYE.

Sow this valuable crop as early as possible on well prepared land and use some fertilizer. On good land, and with good culture, early sown rye will yield a good winter pasture for sheep and young stock, and then, say first of April, give a dressing of 3 bushels of salt and 1 of plaster, it will yield a fine crop of grain and straw besides. We cannot too often repeat that this crop has ever been underrated and neglected by farmers. Its great value as a farm product has been entirely under-estimated.

TOBACCO.

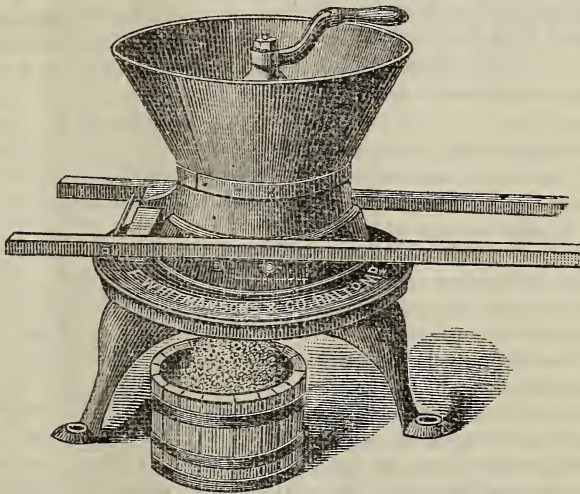
Top low, keep free of suckers and worms. We do not advise the use of Paris Green on this crop after it gets a third grown, as the poisonous effects of this material might become incorporated with, or in some way, prove dangerous to those who might smoke or chew the tobacco unmanufactured. But there really would be no worms if all tobacco growers would do their duty in persistently pursuing the proper means to entirely destroy this great pest and hindrance to making the crop profitable. The way to accomplish this desirable end at small cost, we have over and over again conclusively shown, and earnestly urged.

CATTLE AND STOCK.

Stock of all kinds require attention this month. The pastures usually are not good, and have not yet recovered from the terrific six weeks drought that so extensively prevailed in this section during parts of June and July, and if possible, some food should be supplied daily to make up this deficiency, until the autumnal rains revive the pasture. Milch cows should have, morning and night, one or two quarts of wheat-bran or mill-feed, in a gallon of

water with other slops, made of vegetables or green corn fodder cut fine, with a little salt. If they are suffered to fall off in their milk now, they will be dry by the first cold spell. Beef cattle and young stock should have, once or twice a day, a good feed of bran and ground corn and cob meal mixed. This reminds us to call your attention to that invaluable farm implement, the Young America Corn and Cob Mill, of which we give an illustration here.

statement of Mr. Yellott, as to the experiment made by Col. Johnson of Frederick county Md., many years ago. Both these statements will be found in late numbers of the MARYLAND FARMER. The cob of Indian corn is not only valuable in furnishing a substitute for straw or grass for distention of the stomach to aid digestion, but really has a "considerable amount of fat-producing and flesh-forming elements."



The low price at which they are now sold places them within the reach of every farmer who has a dozen head of stock. We have long contended that there was much value in the ground cob, and we are now fortified in our opinion by the result of the analysis of Dr. Nichols, of Mass., and the

WHEAT.

For some suggestions, both sensible and practical, as to the preparation of land for wheat, we would call your attention to the views of Col. Curtis, expressed elsewhere in the columns of this number of our Journal.

Garden Work for September

Every one who desires to obtain an early supply of spring vegetables should now prepare for the same. There is no trouble or difficulty in wintering over the young plants of kale, cabbage, spinach and lettuce. These green vegetables are antiscorbutics, are tributary to the health of the family at the same time gratify the cravings of the appetite at that season of the year—early spring. Nature seems to demand green food at that time. To secure this pleasure and almost necessity for the health and delectation of one's household we call attention to the small amount of work to be done in the garden this month.

Sowing Cabbage Seed.—Prepare a bed nicely in rich soil and sow in well defined spaces, large Early York, and Jersey Wakefield Cabbage Seed. Sow any time before the 15th, and soak the seed

well before sowing. If dry weather, keep the soil damp, and when the plants come up, after watering or before the dew gets off, sprinkle with fine ashes, soot or plaster with a little sulphur mixed in either dusting that is used. In six weeks they can be set out to stand the winter. When that arrives we will give further directions. When you sow the seed, pat the ground well, or tramp it with the feet, like the tobacco planters "tread" their tobacco beds. We are old tobacco growers, well understand and agree with Mr. Peter Henderson, the great authority on gardening as to the value of the feet in seed sowing.

Enaives.—Set plants of these out.

Lettuce.—Sow seeds for winter use and set out plants for heading this fall.

Radish.—Sow at intervals, seeds of the White and Rose Chinese, White and Black Spanish Radish.

Corn Salad.—Sows seeds of this delicious salad for winter and early spring use. Prepare a rich bed, sow in drills 8 or 10 inches apart, one inch deep, cover and tramp. As they grow, cultivate and thin two or three inches apart in the drills. Those pulled out can be used as salad prepared as lettuce. It is not much used in this country, but whenever it is eaten, more is wanted. It is the great French salad—is very hardy and must become a great favorite with those who like lettuce or other salads as it is very delicate and healthy. We advise all to try it at once.

Celery.—Earth up the celery as it grows. Do not let it suffer for water.

Peppers.—Keep these green and growing by use of the hoe, watering, and liquid manure once a week, applied about the roots.

Herbs.—Plant out in moist weather all kinds of pot and medicinal herbs.

Siberian Kale.—Choose a sandy loam and make the soil rich, prepare the bed well, and sow the seed in drills or broadcast thinly like turnips.

Spinach.—The seeds of this popular vegetable should be sown as early as possible. Let the ground be dry and rich and well pulverized. Sow in drills 8 inches apart, and deposit the seed 1 inch deep in the drills. Press the earth firmly above the seed and carefully finish off. When the plants are an inch high, thin to 4 inches apart and weed the bed thoroughly. As winter approaches, put long manure between the rows and cover lightly with brush. It will then stand the winter well, and from January to April or May give delicious greens for the table—by plucking the leaves. Properly prepared and eaten with salt pork or fowl, it gives a very wholesome and palatable dish in winter and early spring.

COUNTRY ROAD-SIDES.—Public attention and public authority should be called to the many roadsides along our public highways where *thistles, nettles, red dock* and *mustard*, occupy a large portion of the highway, and seeding there, send off on every breeze of wind its millions of seeds like winged insects, to make a lodgment upon their neighbor's fields or farms, and thus like a pestilence spread the evil over all the country in their reach.

If we can make laws to stop the spread of diseased cattle or other stock, can we not correct this evil also; we hope in the coming session of our Legislature this growing evil may be corrected, we hope it will be a Constitutional right, whether we have a new or an old Constitution.—

Exchange.

How to Increase the Yield of Wheat.

We extract from an excellent article in the *Michigan Farmer*, written by our old friend, Col. D. S. Curtis, the following:

"I have before now traced the roots of a stout luxuriant plant of wheat to the length of three feet, two feet deep and another foot laterally, in rich, deeply mellow land—showing that, for best results, land should be deeply plowed and well enriched with plant food. Besides furnishing a wide range and forage for the plant food, the two main benefits of deep plowing are that it gives additional security against drouth by allowing moisture to raise from below as the soil becomes dryer and warmer at the surface, and that by allowing roots to run deeper and get better fastening in the ground the grain is less liable to be winter killed. By deep plowing I do not mean turning the deep, stiff subsoil to the surface, but having a smaller share or tongue follow in the bottom of the first furrow, drawn by a single horse, breaking up the earth four or five inches deeper than the main furrow, while the surface soil of the next furrow will be turned upon it. This affords a chance for the roots to run down and for the moisture to rise up, or the surplus of heavy showers to sink down. Then with plenty of vegetable manure—either from barn yard or from plowing under green crops and lime, 8 to 10 bushels to the acre plowed in with the fertilizers; then the land well harrowed and rolled (this rolling is of the greatest importance) to thoroughly pulverize or powderize the soil, doubling the quantity of available soil, virtually, that may be appropriated by the plants; then seeded with sound seed, of approved varieties, first soaked six to twelve hours in salt brine and rolled in lime or plaster before seeding, to be done carefully with a good drill, not to exceed one bushel to the acre; this process faithfully followed we can guarantee more than 30 bushels of good wheat to the acre nine times as often as there will be less.

Now this process is but little more expensive, though calling for care, than the ordinary practice which gives 10 to 12 bushels to the acre. And is it not more creditable, pleasing and profitable to thus get 100 bushels from three acres than to get the same quantity from ten acres? besides, there is less proportionate cost in harvesting heavy crops than light ones and less waste also; every farmer is aware that there is about as much waste of grain in gathering an acre of 15 bushels as in gathering one of 20 bushels.

Then, in whatever manner the question is looked at, it is found wiser and better to apply the

ordinary expense of labor, manure and pains of eight or ten acres on three or four acres, and get the same yield from the latter as from the former; and this is in fact the whole problem and solution of larger yields and profits in farming; of course there are other details and incidents which go to give greater certainty and completeness to the operations; such as providing against disease and insects incidental to grain; adapting seeds, soils and localities, and best preparation and selection of each and all of these matters.

In this connection a statement of the maximum yield per acre, reported on good authority in different States, will be instructive and may aid in stimulating some farmers to effect higher achievements than usual; for what is accomplished by one may, under similar conditions, be accomplished by all or many.

We have many reports through different sources, correspondence, granges, societies and the agricultural department, in regard to yield and different varieties, entirely worthy of credit, a few of which are given below in brief, without extended detail: With the Blue Stem variety, two reports from the State of New York show one 38 bushels, the other 50 bushels to the acre, on the whole of large fields. With the Clawson variety, one of 50 bushels, another of 54 bushels per acre on whole fields. With the Fultz, in Maryland, Illinois and Tennessee, 40, 50, and 63 bushels per acre were obtained, on fields of several acres each. With Tappahannock, in Virginia and Ohio, 43 and 47 bushels per acre on whole fields were raised. With Touzelle, in Georgia and North Carolina 32 and 41 bushels per acre were obtained. Golden Globe and Sherman (two spring varieties), in Minnesota, 43 and 50 bushels per acre were obtained on considerable fields. Gold Dust, Gold Medal, Sandford, and Silver Chaff, (4 winter varieties), reported reliably from different parts of Michigan, show a range on different fields of 30, 33, 36 and 43 bushels per acre, on whole fields of several acres.

Shortly before the war the writer of this received a gill of Rio Grande wheat (spring), from the post office; it was sown in the garden and carefully gathered, giving 67 gills. The writer also gathered 157 bushels of sound Rio Grande wheat from five acres, at a cost of 10 cents per bushel less than a neighbor's, which yielded only 20 bushels per acre. He also got 360 bushels of good Fultz wheat from 10 acres of good ground, deeply plowed and well pulverized, and any farmer can do the same if he will resolve to do so.

D. S. C."

BEET ROOT SUGAR.

ANOTHER CHAPTER OF THE SUCCESS OF THIS INDUSTRY—BALTIMORE PLANS.

A prominent merchant in Exchange Place yesterday stopped an *American* reporter to show him a sample of beet-root sugar, the contemplated manufacture of which in this city is receiving so much attention from both sugar men and farmers. The sample was brought from Rotterdam. It compares well for whiteness and formation of the crystals with most any sugar brought to this city, and is much sweeter than that ordinarily in use. The merchant alluded to procured several ounces of this sugar from Germany with a view to importing a large quantity, in the hope of making a market for it which could compete with the importations from the West Indies and other places. He found that the cost in Germany would be $4\frac{3}{4}$ cts. per pound, and hoped to be able to have the customs duty levied on that basis of valuation. Upon taking the samples to the appraisers, however, they rated it at $6\frac{1}{4}$ cents a pound—an advance of $2\frac{3}{8}$ cents a pound on the German valuation. The brokerage, freight, insurance, commission for buying, loss in weight and contingencies, it was calculated, would still further increase the price, until the lowest figure at which it could be landed in Baltimore would be 76½-100 cents a pound, which was so high as to preclude all possibility of making any profit by the transaction.

These figures, however, serve to demonstrate the certainty of a large profit if the sugar can be made here at a cost anywhere near as low as in Germany, and there is every reason to believe that this can be done. In Germany there is a tax imposed amounting to about \$4 on each ton of beets which passes into the sugar refinery to have the saccharine matter extracted therefrom. In each factory the government has an official who weighs the beets and collects the revenue from the manufacturer. While the industry is in its infancy here, to say the least, there would be no burden of this kind placed upon the manufacturers; but, on the contrary, the present system of grading imports of sugar would serve as a protection to the new manufacturing interest. Other points which are enumerated by those posted upon the subject as being in favor of American manufacturers are, farm labor, which is stated to be as low in this country now as it is in Germany; the price of coal and of all the ingredients which are used in refining sugar, which can be obtained here at as small cost as in either Germany or France; but, above all, the nature of the soil of Maryland and Virginia

is believed to be better adapted for raising the sugar beet than that of Germany, and with these advantages and the protective duty, which there is no likelihood would be removed, it is not strange that these gentlemen who have investigated the matter should feel sanguine of its being successfully carried out. Mr. John Sparrow, of the Maine Beet Sugar Refining Company, who has spent much time among the factories in Germany and France, in a lecture recently delivered before the Farmers' Club of Maine gave some very interesting figures and data relative to the business in those countries. He said that among the factories he visited in France was one in which 1,200 tons of beets were handled each day, which yielded a product of between 70 and 80 tons of sugar. The value of the sugar thus turned out in the 120 days, which is about as long as the season lasts, would be in the United States about \$1,500,000. The most profitable sized factories, however, Mr. Sparrow continues, are those which use from 150 to 200 tons of beets a day, and it is to this capacity that the Maine establishment is now being enlarged. In Germany they also have co-operative factories managed and owned by the farmers themselves, each one of whom is interested in the successful working thereof, receiving his pro-rata share of all the profits. In foreign countries the beet is worked only in a green state, but from experiments made it is now believed that the factory can be kept going all the year, as, if the beets are packed away in the earth in a certain manner, they will keep all their properties which must be extracted for making sugar. It is expected that the practicability of this scheme will be demonstrated in Maine during the ensuing year, and, if found to work successfully, it will enable the manufacturer to contract with farmers for a much larger acreage than under the present system.

The projects under way in this city are quietly but steadily working towards a definite shape, and it is expected that in a comparatively few days the announcement will be made of the complete plans of those who are pushing this matter forward.—*Baltimore American*.

CULTIVATION OF BEETS FOR SUGAR.—Mr. Richard B. McCoy, president of the Harford County Sugar Beet Association, last week visited Wilmington Del., in the interest of the association. He reports that the enterprise has made great headway in Delaware, and that preparations are being made in Wilmington for the manufacture on a large scale of sugar from beets. A factory is being built with a capacity for making 100 tons of sugar a day. Agents of the company are now in

France and Germany buying and shipping machinery of the most approved character for the new factory. Mr. Lea Pusey, the manager of the company, offers to buy beets in a green state from Harford county farmers at \$4 per ton, delivered at any of the stations on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad. A contract has been made with the railroad company for the transportation of beets at a reduced freight rate. Arrangements will also probably be made for shipping beets to Wilmington from points on the Tidewater canal. The beet crop in Harford county promises to be a good one, although the dry weather has operated unfavorably upon it. From 20 to 40 tons per acre can be raised, and as the expense of cultivating them is very little more than the cost of raising corn, the net profit, it will be seen, is greater than can be made from corn at the prevailing low prices. The new enterprise is an experiment as yet, but it is believed that the result will justify the predictions of the most sanguine friends of the project.—*Belair (Md.) Egis*.

French Methods of Farming.

J. Howard, of Clapham park, Bedford, said he was very much struck by the order and regularity displayed by many of the French farmers, particularly in the management of their dairies. He had had an opportunity of visiting a few of the best homesteads in France, and of inspecting the daily management of the dairies, and he had been very much struck with the precision which was there observed. Every ounce of food of every animal was weighed daily and accurately entered, and the produce given in milk by every cow was tabulated daily on a slate. And he thought it no small matter when a French farmer at the end of the year was able to tell what every cow had cost to keep, and what it had yielded in the shape of produce. There was another lesson which they could learn from the French, namely, the order and neatness of their homesteads, and the greater care which they took of expensive agricultural implements, which they bought very freely. There was yet another point in which the English farmer might learn something from the French farmer. Those English farmers who had walked through the French agricultural implement department would have been naturally struck by the large number of huge plows, with their mold boards as high as a table, and they would naturally inquire what those implements were required for. They were very extensively used on the great beet-root farms by bullock teams in deep tillage for root crops. The French farmers paid more attention to depth of

tillage for their root crops than any English farmer with whom he was acquainted. They devoted as much attention to this matter as we did to the quantity and quality of the manure applied to the ground.

Mr. Dent, while traveling abroad some years ago, went through France and part of northern Italy, and he was then struck with the fact that at nearly every hotel he was able to get a good supply both of milk and butter. There was scarcely an English or a Scotch hotel where one could get anything like a plentiful supply of good milk and butter like that which could be obtained abroad. That was a fact which English farmers and English hotel-keepers might study with advantage. He saw more weeds in but one day's traveling in the neighborhood in which he lived, in the North of England, than in the whole two months that he was traveling abroad. That, perhaps, partly arose from the small numbers of hedges abroad. * * * With respect to poultry, they contrived, besides having a good lot for the people to eat, to send a very large quantity of poultry and eggs to this country. That was another source of profit. He was immensely struck by the beautiful foreign Shorthorns. He was not a breeder, but he had seldom seen anything in a royal agricultural show better than the Shorthorns he had seen at Paris. He had also seen a wonderful show of French cattle at Paris, and there was a great uniformity of type amongst them.

H. M. Jenkins said that, in some of the by-parts of the exhibition, there were to be found collections, sent from different parts to France, which showed the pains taken by the government and by private institutions to improve the agriculture of the country, and to bring home to the mind of the smallest farmer the best methods of cultivating the land and utilizing its produce. It should be remembered, in estimating the merits of French stock, that the French farmer had generally something on his mind very different from meat, for he bred either for work or for milk. Meat, was in almost every case, a secondary object. The breeders of the Charolais cattle, for example, judged them, not by the amount of their meat or their perfect squareness of form, but rather as we should judge a cart-horse, that is by his capacity for work. After keeping a bullock for three years, the breeder would sell it for a large price, and all the purchaser cared for was a beast that would do his work and bring him a good price afterwards. And the case was the same with the breeder of the dairy cattle. He had met with a dairy farmer in France who could bring his

books to show that he made his cows produce a gross return of £40 (\$200) a year each. That was rather a startling fact; but the object of the individual farmer was to get money, and if he could get it by his method, it was worthy of inquiry whether we could not find something to imitate in his practice.—*London Agricultural Gazette.*

The Grange as an Educator.

Eds. Maryland Farmer.—Our cities and towns have been lead to believe that the "clod-hopper" was ignorant and fit only for the butt of our fine city youths—men without education, without talent and with only one idea, viz: How to grow grain and green truck, to make butter, mutton and beef. Did these young men ever consider what the world would be without these horny handed, hay-seed headed grangers when they ridicule them? I fain would believe it is thoughtlessness rather than malice or stupidity. But it is a fact that for ages our farmers have gone on in a course that justifies the assertions of their enemies and falsifiers. They have been content to let the world around them advance rapidly while they have jogged on in the same old trot that their fathers did in centuries past. They have been content to let some fine young fellow from the county seat, who knew about as much of farming or the needs of agriculture as he did about metaphysics, represent them in their legislative halls, to send to congress some paid attorney of a railroad corporation whose knowledge of farming made him believe that asparagus grew on trees and that cucumbers were dug up like potatoes. The men who talked the most, and whose farms would have shamed an intelligent Eastern Shore darkey, were generally set forward to represent the farmer—I should say to mis-represent him.

It was said of Mr. Edmund Ruffin that he was the finest agricultural writer Virginia ever produced and the poorest agriculturist. But that class of gentlemen doubtless went upon the principle of the old preacher who told his congregation to do as he *said*, and not as he *did*.

Farmers as a class are too suspicious of each other, and they are too independent and too positive in their views, caused probably by the fact that (as a Virginian said to me this summer) in looking over his domain, his fields and forests, he looks and all he sees belongs to him, and his heart swells with pride as the consciousness of ownership comes over him. He says, "I am Lord of all I survey." Be the cause what it will, the truth remains the same—the farmer is unwilling to change

his views on any subject, and is slow to appreciate the need of intelligence to increase intelligence.

We propose to change all this in the Grange, by bringing men and women together we hope to incite emulation, and thus to improve the minds of country communities. The Grange has taught farmers that by a little practice they can become good speakers, that bringing mind in contact with mind the farmers open up a field for the intellectual improvement of agriculture which no one ever dreamt of before. Grass is made to grow where it was considered unnecessary in days gone by. Each man is trying to out do his neighbor in some one thing, and even where the Grange has gone down, the improvement it started continues and is visible to all, although some have not the honesty to acknowledge whence it sprung.

It has taught the farmer that to be intelligently represented in the legislature—either state or national—they must be represented by men who are of and from their own class—men who like them suffer when agriculture is oppressed, and men who prosper when agriculture prospers. It has brought the farmers together and developed the latent energy of the hardest working and most industrious class in the world, and if properly continued and carried out will ultimately lead to placing the agriculturist in his proper position in the management of the country. I am no advocate of class legislation, I am no enthusiastic Joshua who would lead the farmer to wage war upon all other classes—far from it. I would simply see him use the good sense with which he is endowed to protect his interests, and thus advance his material prosperity. Such action on his part would lead to greater prosperity of all classes of society, and as all classes are dependent upon the prosperity of the farmers it behooves all to unite in advancing his interest, instead of throwing obstacles in his path.

VIRGINIA PATRON.

Protect the Birds.

The Hon. Cassius M. Clay, of Kentucky, says: "Thousands of crows are destroyed every year by guns, traps and poisoned grain, and multitudes of the young are killed in their nests by every urchin who can climb a tree. Though the crow pulls up a few seeds of the germinating corn, his services to agriculture far out-weigh his depredations; he daily devours insects, grubs and worms, which but for him would devastate whole fields of young corn. He destroys innumerable mice, a thousand other quadrupeds, every one of which commits ten times the mischief he does. He will eat snakes, frogs, lizards and also fruits, seeds

and vegetables, and if hard pushed for food will even descend to carrion.

"The hills and uncultivated places are not the crow's true home, but on the contrary, they, like the bee and the quail, seem especially to follow civilization and land culture. The jackdaw, rook and many other species venture even into cities, and build in churches and old castles. The American crow is rarely seen in remote places. From my own large experience in travel, I do not remember ever seeing a single crow in primitive remote forests or prairies.

"I repeat that wherever birds cannot exist, human life is hardly possible. The locusts have, perhaps, as much diminished human life as the sword. Destructive in their life, even in death they have been one of the greatest scourges to humanity. Flying from the deserted plains of the Nile, and other African birdless regions, they fell chilled by the mountains of Ethiopia, and this produced, according to the ancients, the plague called 'black-death,' which for so many centuries has destroyed millions of men and which even now coming through Asia-Minor and Russia, threatens all civilized lands again."

Good Seed.

If farmers would save quite an item of expense, and at the same time have seeds that can be relied upon, they should, as far as practicable, raise them themselves. This involves some care and attention, but the observance of a few rules will generally produce the desired result. Seed plants of same family should not be allowed to grow in close proximity, or the seeds cannot be depended upon to produce plants like the original. The cause of this is found in the effect which the fertilizing dust or pollen of flowers has on the germs of seeds when different varieties are placed so near together, that intermixture takes place. This always produces a cross, as distinct and with as decided results as that of animals.

It is well known to farmers that apples produced from the seed are rarely like the fruit that produced them; and melons, squashes and the like, will always mix and degenerate, and if several varieties of corn are planted contiguous to each other, intermixture is sure to take place. If it is desired to keep a variety of corn unmixed and pure, it must not be planted in the vicinity of any other variety. A good way to preserve the varieties of the cucumber and summer squash when raised as farmers usually grow them in the garden, is to allow those that set the earliest and nearest the root, to remain for seed. These are less liable

to crossing and degeneracy than those which set later, owing probably to fact that the blossoms are fewer, and the danger of fecundating pollen being transported by bees and flies proportionately less.

We are often disappointed in the seeds we purchase at the stores, and that is the reason why we advise farmers and gardeners to raise their own seed. This is due to the carelessness in growing, and allowing intermixture of varieties. How often it has been the case when we have purchased what are supposed to be the seed of the delicious blood beet, that the product has been a coarse, unpalatable variety of some shade between red and white, and utterly unlike what we had reason to expect. In selecting beets for seeds, if the blood beet is desired, and it is not certain that the beet is the product of pure seed and has not intermixed with some other variety, select only for seed those where stems are of a deep red color, and pure seed may reasonably be expected. A sure way to keep varieties pure is to plant for seed, at such distances apart that intermixture cannot take place. Seedsmen, if they would establish and sustain the reputation of their products, must see to it that their varieties are planted apart. Carelessness, or at any rate lack of attention in this particular, has weakened or destroyed the confidence of the farmer and gardener in many establishments of this kind.—*Maine Farmer.*

To Cure Scab in Sheep.

In looking over the Report of U. S. Agricultural Department for 1877, we read a recipe for scab, given by a correspondent from Oregon, it was to spot every diseased place with a solution of corrosive sublimate. He says it is a certain cure, accompanied with dipping in a strong decoction of tobacco, using half a pound of stem-tobacco to each sheep. Some years ago the sheep in this State were troubled with this disease, and Dr. H. Hodson, of Dorchester County, Md, published in this Journal in its June number of 1866—13 years ago—this recipe, which at the time proved in all instances where tried, an effectual cure. We republish it for public benefit, and that due credit for the prescription may be given to one of our most enterprising citizens for a sure cure for this heretofore as fatal a disease to the sheep as small-pox was formerly to man.

"In your last issue you gave two or three prescriptions for curing scab in sheep; if the disease is produced by small insects, under the skin, I have it in my power to give you an additional prescription for destroying them; it will kill the insects or worms in fifteen minutes from the time it touches them; eggs as well. The application is readily made, and the materials of but little cost. Take corrosive sublimate, 7 grains, rain water 1 oz. Make a solution and apply to the affected part with a soft brush or rag. It is better to wash the sore with a little warm water and soap, before using the above mentioned cure."

THE DAIRY.

MILKING.

The faster and more gentle a cow is milked, the greater will be the amount given. Slow milkers always gradually dry up a cow, and for the reason that if the milk be not drawn about as fast as it is given down it will subsequently be withheld, and and that withheld, is a matter of course what is known as the strippings, in fact, the upper surface of milk in the udder. Many milkers draw the milk with a strong downward pull, in fact, with a jerk. This should never be allowed; it irritates the cow, and often injures the bag. Fill the teat and with a firm pressure of the last three fingers empty it, drawing slightly on the teat and udder at the same time; so proceed alternately with each hand until the milk supply is exhausted. Many milkers get the habit of slow milking because steady, firm, quick milking tires the fingers and wrists, until by practice the muscles get used to the work. Until this use comes naturally the individual should only milk such a number as they can without severe cramping of the hands; what are milked should be milked fast, increasing the number until at last there is no strain whatever. Five minutes is about the limit that should be allowed for milking a cow. There is another thing well worthy of being remembered. Cows should be milked as nearly at a given hour morning and evening as possible, since undue distention of the udder is always injurious.—*The Prairie Farmer.*

The result of late experiments in England show that 15½ quarts of the milk of Shorthorns is required for a pound of butter. The same amount was produced from 10½ quarts of Ayrshire milk, 9½ quarts of Galloway milk and 8½ quarts of Kerry milk, the milk being produced, as nearly as possible, under the same condition.—*Exchange.*

The "Cooley Creamer," an American invention, is thus spoken of by "The Farm," Dublin, Ireland: "By this machine milk can be set and cream raised within twelve hours, or between milkings. Its contents are entirely excluded from the outside atmosphere, being wholly surrounded and covered by water, which affords full control over temperature. It is thus not affected by change of weather—dog-days, spring, autumn and winter being alike favorable to this process. The "Cooley Creamer" is extensively in use in America, and it is only necessary for its merits to be more generally known to secure it a universal introduction to our English dairies."

SOUTHERN MARYLAND LANDS.

A CIRCULAR FROM FOREST GRANGE, P. OF H., PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD.

We wish to call the attention of any of your farmers who contemplate emigration to the superior inducements this section of Maryland offers to settlers. Our climate is temperate, escaping extremes of the northern winters and the hot summers of the far south. The lands are very accessible, being penetrated by numerous railroads and navigable rivers, and their immediate proximity to the sea-port of Baltimore and the National Capital, brings a market to their very door. Grain and Tobacco have been the staple products of this section of the State ever since it was first settled, but the land is well adapted to the cultivation of the Grape. Fruit of all kinds, Hops, Grass, Grazing and Dairy Farming.

The landholders realize the fact that it is now impossible for them to cultivate the large tracts of land they were accustomed to work before the war, and, therefore, being desirous to divide and subdivide their farms, they are willing and anxious to sell, and will sell on the most reasonable terms. What we want is more farmers. In the five counties of Southern Maryland there is room for TEN THOUSAND MORE FARMERS.

Farms can be bought for from TEN to thirty-five dollars per acre, for which in times past, a hundred dollars per acre has been refused, and in many cases no cash payments being required.

In recognition of these facts, Forest Grange, No. 16, P. of H., has appointed a Committee on Immigration, and the Secretary of this Committee has been authorized to send out this Circular, and he will be glad to answer all inquiries, and give any information in his power to all who will communicate with him on this subject.

CHARLES F. BILLOPP,

Secretary of Committee,

OAK GROVE, P. O.

Prince George's Co., Md.

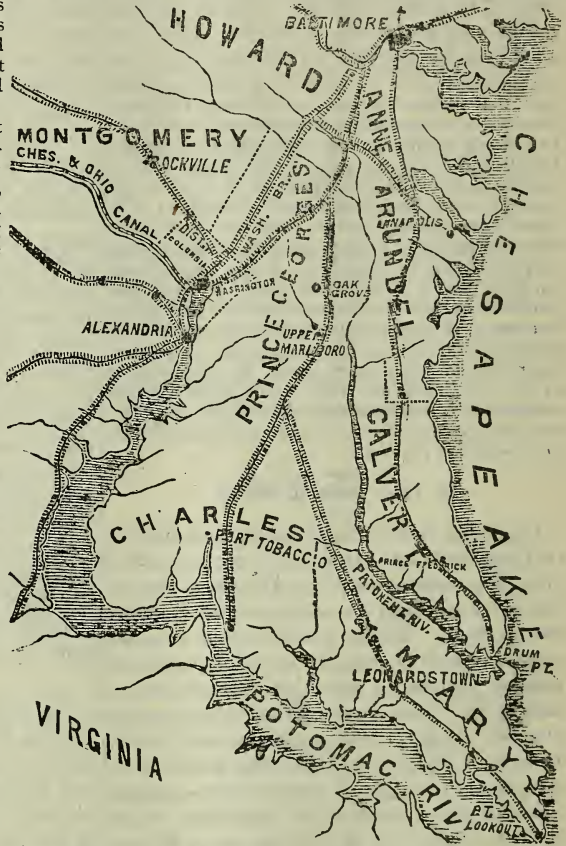
Endorsed by State Grange Agent,

HENRY O. DEVRIES.

June 15th, 1879.

Mr. Billopp, the Secretary to the Immigration Committee of Oak Grove Grange, Prince George's Co., Md., has kindly furnished us with the following extract from a letter he received from V. E. Piolet, Esq., Master of the State Grange of Pennsylvania, acknowledging the receipt of the circular issued by the O. G. Grange, which is given above.

"I will most cheerfully endorse all you say about the eligibility of your section of Maryland as an agricultural district. Further, my opinion is that this section is very much more advantageous to those who desire to emigrate than any part of the Western States. These Maryland lands, divided up into one hundred acre farms, will prove good homes, and their nearness to an export-market will always serve to give enhanced value to production, above the same that can be realized by farmers who carry on their vocation in the interior or western borders of our extended country."



The Cumberland County Horticultural and Agricultural Society will compete with similar organizations in the Middle States for the handsome premiums offered by the Penn. State Agl. Society to horticultural and agricultural societies at the annual exhibition to be held in the Centennial Buildings, September 8 to 20 next. This organization, across the Susquehanna from Harrisburg, has been long noted for the quality of fruits and seeds displayed at their annual re-unions, and they issue this invitation to their sister societies in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland to contend with them in their friendly rivalry.—Exchange.

Chew Jackson's best sweet Navy Tobacco.

The Poultry House.

We give the following extracts from an exhaustive article on Geese in the August number of that excellent and beautifully illustrated monthly, the *Poultry World*:

Varieties of Geese.

The most popular breed of all varieties of the goose are the common or mongrel gray or white sorts. These are, generally speaking, descendants from the original Gray Lag Goose, and may be found widely disseminated in small flocks in every portion of this country, especially in New England and throughout the Northern States, being cultivated for the nearest city markets, where thousands are sold annually for consumption.

Long domestication has increased the size of these geese. And in many districts where attention has been and is given to selecting the best and largest ganders every year to breed to the better class of females, fine yearlings are produced by poulterers who understand this branch of their business, and who keep their geese upon the right kind of land, as a specialty. In addition to this mongrel race, we have also the superior White Embden or Bremen variety, the great Toulouse, the mammoth Hong-Kong or African, the Barnacle, the small Brown China Goose, and the Sebastopol—a new variety, but little known.

The three principal sorts now named—to wit, the Bremen, the Toulouse and the great Hong-Kong, are but sparsely bred among us, as compared with the number of common geese grown annually in America. But the introduction of ganders of either of these breeds among the flocks of common geese, has had the same effect in increasing the size of the progeny (in the first crossing) that the mammoth Bronze cock has occasioned by his admixture with the common race of hen-turkeys around us.

THE COMMON DOMESTIC GOOSE

is too well known to require at our hands any elaborate description. They are grown everywhere and anywhere, in small or large flocks, where the commonest facilities are at hand, or where any kind of feathered biped can subsist. But the better the care and conveniences afforded them, the better the results to their keepers, as a matter of course. All fowl-stock thrives best when well attended to.

The common geese, either white, gray or mottled, are, in proportion to the whole number bred in this country, at least a thousand to one. The large varieties we have mentioned are compara-

tively but seldom seen on our farms; and either the Bremen, the Toulouse or the African are to be found, in their purity, in possession of but few fanciers—who grow the latter for breeding-stock or as ornamental water-fowl, for the most part. In view of the incontrovertible fact, however, that the bulkier varieties, at the same age, may be grown just as easily and with as little trouble or care as the others, it is surprising that those who cultivate this race at all do not choose the heavier and larger sort in preference to rearing the mongrels!

An ordinary eight or ten-pound "green goose" at Christmas time will command for price as dead poultry in market from a dollar and a half to two dollars cash—according to weight and quality—and these are produced by the thousand every year, among the common race. At nine or ten months old, a well-fed specimen of the larger-bodied varieties will draw twelve to fourteen lbs. (frequently more), and sell for two or three cents per pound higher than the best of the mongrels will bring. And the extra cost of bringing the more meaty fowl to this condition, at the age mentioned, is hardly perceptible.

Why, therefore, shall we not cultivate the heavier sorts? The first cost for breeding-stock, it is true, is greater. But the rapidity with which this race multiplied—where the proper facilities are at hand to grow geese—is a sufficient answer to this oft-repeated objection, to every sensible, enterprising poultryman.

THE EMBDEN GOOSE

is also extensively known as the White *Bremen* goose—the first that we ever had in America, having come direct from the port of Bremen, Germany. These were imported by John Giles, of Providence and by Col. Samuel Jaques, of Ten-Hills Farm, Medford, Mass., some sixty years ago.

These geese are of mammoth proportions, as are also the Toulouse; ganders of either breed frequently weighing twenty-eight to thirty-five pounds each, alive. Mr. Sisson, of Warren, R. I., a few years later than the other importers mentioned, received from Bremen a few of these splendid fowls, and wrote that "they lay early in March, sit and hatch with much greater certainty than do the common geese, will draw nearly double the weight at same age, yield quite twice the quantity of feathers annually, never fly at all, and are uniformly of a snowy whiteness."

Within twenty-five years, the Bremens have been sold at \$40.00 and \$50.00 a pair, for breeding stock. Now they are more common, and can be had at \$10.00 the pair, of fanciers in various parts of this country. Crossed with the common

white goose, the progeny retain the original pure white color, and are enlarged greatly in size, at once.

THE TOULOUSE GOOSE

is also an enormous bird, but is thicker and shorter in form. Its color is brownish gray, all over, with lighter tinted plumage under the breast and belly. they grow very rapidly, from the shell, put on fat readily, and at maturity will equal the Bremen in weight, and frequently are known to excel the latter in this respect. These crossed upon the mongrel gray or brown goose, produce a progeny that are also increased in size largely—and which are a very salable article of poultry at about Christmas time, and subsequently, in winter, annually.

THE AFRICAN GOOSE

averages the largest of all the varieties known to Americans. Pairs of the early importations of this variety into this country are publicly recorded to have weighed fifty six pounds, for a gander and and goose; and forty and fifty pounds per pair is not an uncommon weight to be attained at the present time, where these fowls are purely bred from original stock. We have had this breed (in limited quantities) in the United States for about thirty years.

The Hong Kong (or "African") goose is brown, in color not unlike that of the Toulouse. But his shape is entirely different, and he wears a large horny knob at the base of his upper mandible, which distinguishes him from the others—and which has in some places given him the name of the "Great Brown Knobbed Goose."

So far as we are informed, this variety of geese lay but few eggs annually, in comparison with the yield by the Bremen and Toulouse. And this fact perhaps accounts for the scarcity among us of this really fine water-fowl.

But these three varieties are now thoroughly domesticated in this country and in Europe. And whenever they have either of them been used to cross upon the common geese, they have unmistakably left their mark upon and vastly improved the progeny that has succeeded such crossing.

OTHER VARIETIES OF GEESSE.

The *American Standard of Excellence* recognizes, besides the three principal breeds noted on the score of utility, viz., the Embden (or Bremen), the Toulouse and the Hong-Kong (or African), three others, which may be considered more ornamental than useful, viz., the Egyptian and the Brown Chinese and the White Chinese. Of the Egyptian little need be said. It is rare, being seldom seen at our shows, and has the reputation of being a bad breeder. The Brown Chinese is

but a copy of the African on a smaller scale, the colors and proportions being the same, and the White Chinese is a counterpart of the Brown. The Sebastopol is derived from the region from which it takes its name, and possesses the merit of oddity in plumage, which is its principal claim to attention.

The Sebastopol and Canada Geese, though shown at our exhibitions, are not recognized in the *Standard*.

GEESSE ARE PROFITABLE.

Of all known poultry-stock, geese are in the main the most profitable fowl that can be reared, where the situation is such as is appropriate and convenient on which to breed them—and the land they occupy for range is not needed or suited to other farming purposes.

The poorest of poor-pasture ground will suffice for their grazing. Swamp, marsh, stream or river suits them equally well, for bathing, feeding and sporting in the water. And between land and water they will contrive to forage largely for their sustenance, if they have room enough—thus reducing the cost of their keeping for most of the year to a merely nominal sum.

Other kinds of poultry are good in their way. But there is no portion of the goose that is not good for something. The liver is a choice tid-bit, as every lover of the *pate de foie gras* very well knows. The feathers are valuable, and they yield these when dead or alive, in considerable quantity. Their plumes make admirable quill pens. When fatted, their meat is a most desirable dish in cold weather for the table of the *bon vivant*.

And while living, if kept upon a private pond or miniature lake, they are next in beauty to the admired swan, as an ornamental water-fowl, upon the premises of the well-to-do farmer or country gentleman.

WHY NOT BREED GEESSE, THEN?

The reasons given generally are because they are supposed to be enormous eaters, and because the method for raising them successfully is not understood. But as a matter of fact, neither are they expensive to feed or difficult to rear!

Anybody who can set a hen, and who is able to care properly for a brood of chickens, may raise a flock of goslings—provided the birds have water at hand for their accommodation, when it is needed for them.

There are thousands of old farms and estates along the American sea-coast, as well as in the interior, whereon geese could well be kept and reared to profit—which lands are useful for little else. And as we have heretofore suggested, we

repeat that this advice to those who own such otherwise useless and uncultivated property, on which there are the requisite 'water privileges' we have referred to, will do well to bear this hint in mind.

The experiment, at least, will cost but little, and with intelligent management, we are confident that success will follow upon this undertaking, in almost any location where geese are raised in quantities within reasonable distance of a good market. [TO BE CONTINUED.]

State Fairs.

American Institute, New York,	Sept 17 to Nov 22
American Pom. Soc., Rochester,	Sept. 17 to 19
Capital State (Texas), Austin,	Oct. 28 to Nov. 1
Central Ohio,	Mechanicsburg, Sep 2 to 5.
Connecticut,	Hartford, Oct. 14 to 17.
Delaware,	Dover, Sept 22 to 28.
Fat Stock,	Chicago, Nov 10 to 15
Georgia,	Macon, Oct. 27 to Nov. 1.
Illinois,	Springfield, Sept. 29 to Oct. 4
Indiana,	Indianapolis, Sept. 29 to Oct. 4
Iowa,	Des Moines, Sept. 1 to 5.
Michigan,	Detroit, Sept. 15 to 19.
New Jersey,	Waverly, Sept 15 to 20.
New York,	Utica, Sept. 8 to 12.
Northern Ohio,	Cleveland, Sept. 1 to 5.
Northern Kentucky,	Florence, Aug. 26 to 30.
New England,	Worcester, Sept. 2 to 6.
North Carolina,	Raleigh, Oct. 13 to 18.
North Georgia,	Atlanta, Oct. 20 to 25.
Ohio,	Columbus, Aug. 25 to 29.
Pennsylvania,	Philadelphia, Sept. 8 to 20.
Rhode Island,	Cranston, Sept. 9 to 11.
St. Louis,	St. Louis, Oct. 5 to 11.
Southern Ohio,	Dayton, Sept. 22 to 26.
Southern Kentucky,	Glasgow, Oct. 7 to 10.
South Carolina,	Columbia, Nov. 11 to 14.
Virginia,	Richmond, Oct. 28 to 31.

COUNTY FAIRS IN MARYLAND.

There will be no Maryland State Fair held at Pimlico this year.

Alleghany,	Cumberland, Oct. 7 to 10
Baltimore Co.,	Timonium, Sept. 9 to 12.
Frederick,	Frederick, Oct. 14 to 17.
Dorchester,	Cambridge, Sep. 30 to Oct. 3.
Montgomery,	Rockville, Sept. 4 to 5.
Kent,	Chestertown, Sept. 16 to 18.
Caroline,	Bethlehem, Sept. 16 to 18
Carroll,	Westminster, Sep. 30 to Oct. 3

Other Fairs noticed elsewhere in this number.

We shall be glad to be informed by secretaries, of the place and time of holding the different fairs in October and November which we have not published.

Among the Granges.

Montgomery County (Pomona) Grange No. 7, held its regular quarterly session at the New Grange Hall in Brownsville, near Damascus, on Thursday, July 31st, 1879. In the absence of W. M., McDonald, Brother F. A. Tschiffely occupied the chair.

Unfinished business being in order, Brother D. Lawrence of the Committee on Farmers' Grievances and the Mode of Redress, read a report which was accepted with a vote of thanks. A resolution offered at the Olney meeting of the County Grange requiring the appointment of a Committee to draft bills, next taken up. This resolution recites that a "Committee on Laws" needed by farmers having been appointed by the last State Grange, to prepare bills on subjects that require legislation, to be presented to the Maryland State Grange at its next session. It is desirable to have a committee of Patrons of Montgomery to prepare similar bills for presentation to the Montgomery Grange before being forwarded to the State Grange for its action. The resolution was passed, and Brothers Lawrence, Farquhar, Purdum and Young were appointed the committee.

Brother Lawrence, delegate from Brighton, presented, as instructed by his Grange, resolutions passed by Brighton Grange, condemning the use of intoxicating liquor and all other forms of bribery and corruption to control elections, and asked the endorsement of these resolutions by the County Grange, which was also asked to instruct the Executive Committee to call the special attention of Grange speakers to this reprehensible practice of politicians and to appoint a Committee of one or more of its members to present similar resolutions to the Howard County Grange to secure its co-operation in the removal of the evils complained of. The County Grange by resolutions, endorsed the action of Brighton Grange, and instructed its Executive Committee as requested.

The members then partook of a sumptuous collation prepared in the room below, which consisted of every thing in abundance necessary for the refreshment and up building of the physical man—a feature for which the fair sisters of Damascus are justly famous.

The members of the Grange then attended a public meeting which was held in the Church Grove, a short distance from the Grange Hall, to listen to addresses from several speakers who had been invited to be present and explain the principles upon which the Grange was founded and which controlled its action.

The meeting was called to order by C. F. Purdum, who introduced F. A. Tschiffely as the first speaker: he dwelt strongly upon the great advantages of the Order as a social institution in bringing farmers, as members of a grand calling, more closely together in defence of their common trust. Wm. H. Farquhar followed, dwelling on the educational features of the Order, and Dawson Lawrence spoke of the necessity of united action among farmers to remove the evils which had crept into the management of our public affairs.

We noticed as an interesting, but by no means unusual, feature of the Grange meeting, that Bro. Purdum had on exhibition on the overseer's desk the finest specimen of leaf tobacco your correspondent ever saw, grown and housed in two months and ten days. Would it not be a good plan for members to bring on such occasions the best thing in their line to show what can be done in the way of production?

Brighton Grange, No. 60, Montgomery County, Md., held its regular monthly meeting at its Grange Hall, Brighton, on Friday, August 1, 1879. W. M., Isaac Hartshorne in the chair. The Grange was opened in due form and a large attendance of members showed that the interest in its proceedings was unabated.

Reports of special committees being in order an Essay on "The Bearing of Mal-administration on Aesthetic Culture," was read by a member of the Committee on Music and Recreation, showing that the popularization and enjoyment of art among the masses was retarded by public corruption and the extravagance of those distributing the public fund. This essay was an unusual feature of the exercises, and the innovation was well received. The Committees on Farmers' Banks, and State Legislative Statistics, asked further time, which was granted. The Committee on Items of Economy in the Public Service, made a report of fifteen sections. The first section in regard to greater economy in county clerks' offices occupied all the time at the disposal of the Grange, when further consideration of the report was deferred until the next meeting—a recess being taken for the feast.

Upon re-assembling, the Grange took up the question of pearl millet, brought before the Grange by some criticisms on this seed, read from the MARYLAND FARMER at the last meeting of the Grange. Considerable discussion ensued, when it was unanimously resolved to warn the agricultural public against the further purchase of the seed. The hour being late, and discussion of the regular question, "What is the least quantity of

lime that can profitably be used per acre," and also the supplemental question, "What proportion of our crops does it cost to house them?" was postponed. After the worthy lecturer's remarks, the Grange adjourned.

An event of unusual interest and variety occurred in connection with the Grange movement in Howard County, Md. The occasion was the regular meeting of Limestone Valley Grange, No. 70, of Clarksville, Howard county, which was held Thursday, August 7th, by invitation at the house of Dawson Lawrence, at Linden, a few miles west of Clarksville. The weather was threatening and stormy, but an unusual number of members of the order were present, including several from other Granges. The meeting room, up stairs, was embellished by the productions of the farm. The master's table and altar were decorated with flowers, down stairs the room set apart for the harvest home, feast and dancing, was hung with evergreens, the product of adjoining farms.

The Grange was opened in due form, W. M., E. C. Pue in the chair; James Harban, Secretary. The special business for the evening was the discussion of the plans and site for the new hall, but owing to the absence of some of the committee, the business was deferred, and a special meeting ordered by vote of the Grange, to take place Thursday, August 14, at Clarksville. Meeting adjourned, and the doors thrown open to a merry crowd of Grangers and their friends, numbering some 50 persons. An abundant harvest home feast followed, which was enjoyed greatly by all. Following this, were organ, violin and vocal music and afterwards dancing to the music of a string band. While the young people were thus engaged, the more sedate were enjoying cards, checkers, &c., in an adjoining room. It was an array of beauty and worth that represented the best phases of rural life, and your correspondent has seldom or never seen superior attractions in similar gatherings, and wished "Patuxent Planter" could have been present to enjoy the scene and the refreshments. The Company broke up about midnight, as our host was known not to be an "all night man." ***

THE Maine Beet Sugar Company has been successful in its operations, and additional machinery sufficient to work one hundred tons of beets per day is being put up to meet the business of the coming manufacturing season. Now the expense account is in order. It is easy enough to make sugar from beets.—*Ex.*

History of the Maryland Agricultural and Mechanical Association.

CHAPTER XIII.

The second evening, October 25th, 1853, the Society met and after the transaction of routine business, the president, C. B. Calvert, Esq., made the following remarks, which we quote as we find them fully reported in the *American Farmer*, Volume IX, pages 170, 171 and 172, because they are significant of the sentiments that were beginning to prevail at that day, and which have since been approved and carried into practice in a great degree. The president said:

"It is usual at the annual meeting of this Society, for its presiding officer to make a statement of its proceedings during the year, and its present condition, and I shall now endeavor to do this in conformity with the requirements of custom; and, as I stated last year, I hope the Society will relieve me from the responsibilities of the office. Six years ago we commenced this highly laudable undertaking, in a small way, and since then it has been gradually increasing, both in importance, and the number of members, up to the present time. It is now in a flourishing condition, and while it fully equals the anticipations of its founders, it has also proven its great usefulness to the agricultural interests of the State, and secured the best wishes of the community generally.

"Six or seven weeks since I expected this year's exhibition would greatly excel any former one of the Society, and be entirely equal to that of any similar association in the country; neither would these expectations have been disappointed, but for the recent inclement weather, which has prevented many farmers from getting their stock upon the ground. As it is, a number of our stalls are unoccupied, and the amount of stock on exhibition does not exceed former years; but what is there, is of the best description, and ably sustains the credit of Maryland Farmers. And this Society's Exhibition (as the statements of others will bear me out in asserting,) far surpasses that of the famous Association of New York, as well as several others in different sections of the country, which I have visited this year.

"Our financial condition a few months ago looked dark, and some of us were much discouraged about the future prospects of the Association. Indeed, I began to apprehend the institution was not properly appreciated by the people of Baltimore, and that they would not continue to support it. I am glad, however to be able to say, these fears and misgivings were groundless. A few weeks since, a meeting of the officers was called, and after deliberation, a committee consisting of Mr. J. T. Earle, Mr. J. Merryman, Jr., Mr. E. G. Duvall, Mr. Dorsey and myself, were appointed a committee, and started out to procure subscriptions. After calling upon a few citizens our doubts were at once

dissipated, and we found everywhere a cordial willingness to aid in supporting the Association. This desire to subscribe was so general, that but two of those we called upon failed to respond favorably, and we were induced to limit the amount subscribed by each to ten dollars. We soon obtained a sufficient sum for the required purposes, and are happy to say that the finances of the Society are now in as healthy and flourishing a condition as the most sanguine among us could have expected. The subscriptions enabled us to remove our indebtedness entirely, and something was left for future expenditure. I believe if meetings of the officers were held occasionally, and those present were to use similar efforts in obtaining assistance, they could procure almost any amount that might be required to carry out the objects of the Society and extend its usefulness.

"In conclusion, allow me to make a suggestion—as this will be the last occasion on which I will appear before you in my present position—and it will only be a suggestion, and as such only I hope it will be regarded by you. This Society has several times asked little favors of the State of Maryland, as you are all aware, and what have been the answers? The Legislature has refused to grant each request! They have uniformly said, No!—They have given you comparatively nothing, although four fifths of those occupying places in that assemblage are of your own profession! Why is this?—they gave to the Mechanic's Institute, and why not you? I can tell you why. The Mechanics are a little better united than the Agriculturists. Their influence in the political world is of more consequence. They have held meetings and combined together in their action. When they wanted any thing from the Legislature, they united and demanded it. This is the reason their requests were complied with, because their union made their influence an object of importance. So must you do if you wish any assistance from the Government. You must be united, and continue united. Leave your party politics at home—they must not be introduced into your meetings, and allowed to make dissensions among you. You deserve the patronage of the Government as much as any other class of community, and, if you will only combine your efforts, you will obtain it equally as soon. The mechanics feel and know, "that united we stand, divided we fall." You should also learn this truth, and act upon it, and then demand your rights—demand for your enterprise the support of the Government, and be assured you will obtain it.

Agriculture is an important subject—equally so with Commerce and the Arts, and it has commanded the attention of all classes of men. The wearied politician, tired and disgusted with the scenes of strife and fraud which he continually encounters in the routine of his professional life, retires from the arena, and seeks repose in the quiet walks of agriculture. The merchant, the lawyer, and the physician, after having worn out their energies in the arduous duties of their respective callings, are also found pursuing the same course. It is true, too, that farmers send their sons away from home to receive instruction to fit them for the other professions; but this is

only because they have thus a better opportunity for political advancement and distinction, than if brought up farmers. The members of other professions are not more capable of filling places of public trust than farmers, but the latter do not maintain their own rights, and the importance of their own calling.

If the subject is properly considered, we must all be convinced, that instead of being the *least*, agriculture is the *chief* of all vocations. Like the main-spring of a watch, it is the motive power, the vital principle of every country, and the other professions are all dependent upon it for their support. It should then be considered worthy the patronage and favor of public men, and it will be so estimated, when farmers themselves esteem it as they should; but until then, it will remain as now, without other honors than those which cannot be taken from it.

Before taking my seat, I must call your attention to an important paragraph in the Report of the State Chemist, which really astonished me when I read it. I will read it to you, and I am confident you will be astonished at it. It is found on the forty-ninth page of the Report:—

"The proportion of several mineral constituents best adapted to produce fertility and the requisite physical structure, can be found, or at least approximated to, by a large number of careful analyses, made in different seasons, of soils which are already productive. The kind and quantity of manures best adapted to renovate worn-out lands, can be shown only by their careful analysis, and the *noted* results of manures upon these lands. It is not enough to know that a particular manure is adapted to a particular soil. The most economical quantity, that which will give the greatest profit from the smallest outlay, should be shown, both as to present increase and future returns.

"Experimental farms are required to show this, where careful analyses of soils are made—applied manures carefully analyzed, and the crops carefully measured and weighed, and the results *frankly and truthfully* given.

"Facts of this sort would be a ground-work for future operations, and at once place Agriculture on a rational basis."

Now, this meets my approbation entirely, and had the State Chemist stopped here, I would have found no objection whatever. I, too, believe firmly in the utility of an Agricultural School and an Experimental Farm, and I had hoped our State Government would consider the feasibility and advantage of establishing such an institution. But what has astonished me, is the remarks contained in the following note, found on the same page:

"I am happy to inform your Honorable Body, that all, and more than all, which can be accomplished by an experimental farm, I have made arrangements to accomplish, by the aid of several public spirited gentlemen of our State. Dr. Maddox, of Washington county, Hon. F. P. Blair, of Montgomery, Mr. T. S. Iglehart, of Anne Arundel, Jas. Wallace, Esq., of Dorchester, T. R. Hollyday, Talbot, Dr. J. H. Turner, of St. Mary's, have each agreed to set aside a portion of their

farms for a series of carefully conducted experiments with different manures on different crops. The experiments will embrace, the analysis of the soil—the analysis of the manure—the time and mode of its application—the mode of cultivation—the exact product of the land, and the state of the season. These facts will be most important to the people of Maryland; they will form the first and only experiments made in our State or elsewhere, where all the causes influencing the production of a crop will be estimated, and the separate value assigned to each.

"The well known intelligence, care and integrity of these gentlemen, are guarantees that their statements can be implicitly relied on, whilst the different variety of soils owned by them will make their observation of extended public utility.

"I shall open a correspondence with other gentlemen in our own State, and probably will extend the area of the experiments, and increase their utility.

"In the spring, we will commence with the corn crop, then the wheat, then oats, and finally all of the various crops cultivated in our State. The end of these experiments being truth, and not for the purpose of sustaining this or that manure, or any particular theory, they can be implicitly relied on."

With due deference to the opinion of the scientific gentleman, I must say that I am compelled to differ with him. The analyses of soils, under the present arrangement, is of very little, if any, advantage to the farmer. It cannot be applied practically, and the expense attending the researches of the State Chemist and his able co-workers, will be wasted. I cannot see on what ground he assumes that the use of an experimental farm will be dispensed with, and I must say I consider the whole scheme a humbug—a perfectly valueless project—because it is certainly impracticable, as far as general utility is concerned. Several years ago the State Geologist ascertained that certain soil contained large proportions of magnesia, and that magnesian lime was procured from limestone in that vicinity. He accordingly stated that the lime should not be applied to the soil there, because it was worthless as a fertilizing agent, on account of the proportions of magnesia already contained in the soil, and, in fact, was an injury to the land. One farmer who heard this opinion, abandoned the use of lime, and tried other fertilizers, but his land did not produce as good crops as his neighbors. He, however, adhered to the dictation of the Geologist for several years, when, by the advice of his neighbors, he was again induced to resort to liming, and his crops were considerably benefited. The secret of the matter was, that the Geologist's examination was not general by any means, and his counsel was therefore, actually detrimental to the interests of the Agriculturist who acted in accordance with his advice. I think the advice of the State Chemist is of the same unreliable character, and I hope the office will be abolished. The usefulness of Agricultural Schools is not a matter of doubt and experiment—it has been already fully tested in Europe, and as an argument in its favor, I need only mention, there are in the various European countries two hundred and fifty of these schools in full operation.

Another subject well worthy your attention, is that of Banks for farmers. They cannot make the now existing banks available for their use, as these only let out money on the endorsement of gentlemen residing in the city. They will not take mortgages on the land of the farmers as security, because they cannot turn those lands into money without some delay and inconvenience; and as it is not in the power of farmers generally to procure city endorsers, they cannot make use of the banks. This difficulty might be obviated by the establishment of banks for farmers expressly, where they can obtain money, to be paid on the sale of their crops. Other classes of citizens, by the facilities they possess of obtaining money from banks, can have the use of a thousand dollars for every hundred dollars they possess, and they are thus able to keep ahead. The farmer, whose real amount of capital invested greatly exceeds that of other professions, from his being restricted to the use of the money he can obtain by the sale of his produce, is never able to compete successfully with the merchant and manufacturer. The remark of a gentleman of note, that "farmers needed no bank but a manure bank" is not well founded, and is unworthy any attention. Manure banks are of great value to the farmer, but he wants banks which will accommodate him with loans of money, and if the city banks will not do this, let country banks be established, expressly for the purpose of affording these facilities. The farmers can have these banks if they will, as well as anything else requisite for the advancement of their interests. It is only necessary they should be united, and demand them; for they comprise about three-fourths of the voters of the State, and their combined action will have a powerful influence.

Before taking my seat, allow me to return thanks for the attention you have accorded me on this occasion; and I must again remind you that it is the last time I shall appear before you in the relation I now stand, as you must relieve me from the duties of this honorable and responsible position, after the expiration of the present term of office."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

THE MARYLAND FARMER for August comes fairly laden with good matter for the farmer, the gardener, and the housewife. Most of the articles are contributed by practical writers in their special lines, while the editorial department is presided over by Ezra Whitman, a gentleman of large experience, who is aided by Col. Bowie, a native of our county. This alone should secure the FARMER a large circulation in this county. Published in Baltimore at the very low price of \$1—*Laurel Gleaner*.

THE MARYLAND FARMER for August is on hand, fresh, spicy, and full of interest in all its various departments. No farmer should be without it, as it can be had for the low price of \$1 per annum in advance. Published by Ezra Whitman, Baltimore Md.—*Frederick Examiner*.

THE FASTEST MILE EVER MADE.—Edwin Forrest, driven by John Murphy, made the fastest mile that was ever made in the world, yesterday afternoon, on the three-quarter track on Mr. Bonner's farm, near Tarrytown. The first quarter was made in $32\frac{1}{2}$, the half in $1.05\frac{1}{2}$, the three-quarters $1.38\frac{1}{2}$, and the full mile in $2.11\frac{3}{4}$. Three watches were held on him; the fastest made the mile in $2.11\frac{1}{2}$ and the slowest in 2.12 , consequently the time, according to rule, is $2.11\frac{3}{4}$. Forrest a year ago, before Mr. Bonner bought him, trotted a mile in public at Hartford in $2.14\frac{1}{2}$, and it is Mr. Bonner's intention to show him once more in public, so that the people at large can see the great improvement in the horse's speed.—From the *New York Sun*.

A TYLER TROPHY.—There was August 5th exhibited in the counting-room of *The Sun* office a "Trophy" tomato, weighing 45 ounces, grown by Gen. E. B. Tyler, postmaster of Baltimore, at his country place, Rosedale, on the Franklin road, in Baltimore county, five miles from this city. Although of such mammoth proportions, the tomato is finely and evenly colored, and as firm and well filled as the best in our market of smaller size.

[What has the great tomato grower, Postmaster Hyde of Boothby Hill, to say to this? Gen. T. is a successful and enthusiastic Baltimore horticulturist.—Eds.]

R. H. Bell, the vegetable gardener, had a bunch of tomatoes, which he raised in his garden on High street, on exhibition at H. H. Mitchell's drug store, a few days ago, that far exceeded anything of the kind ever before seen in this locality. They were of the variety known as the Conquerer, and were very fine. The bunch, which evidently had been the production of one cluster of blossoms, contained 22 well developed and fully ripened tomatoes, which, with the stems on which they grew, weighed $7\frac{1}{4}$ pounds.—*The Cecil Whig*.

KILLING RATS.—The following cheap and simple method of extermination is said to have been successfully employed by Baron Von Backhofen and his neighbors for some years past: "A mixture of two parts of well-bruised common squills and three parts of finely chopped bacon is made into a stiff mass, with as much meal as may be required, and then baked into small cakes, which are put down for the rats to eat. Several correspondents of the *German Agricultural Gazette* write to announce the complete extirpation of rats and mice from their cow-stalls and piggeries since the adoption of this simple plan.—*Pen and Plow*.

THE
MARYLAND FARMER,
A STANDARD MAGAZINE.

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture & Rural Economy.
EZRA WHITMAN,
Editor.

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor.

141 West Pratt Street
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These articles we warrant to be first-class.

TO ADVERTISERS

The large circulation of the Maryland Farmer makes it one of the best mediums for advertisers of all classes. Its circulation will be largely increased by our reduction in the Subscription Price, and hence add to its advantages as a medium for advertisers. The terms of advertising will remain as heretofore.

The Maryland Farmer will be read this year by more Farmers, Planters, Merchants, Mechanics and others interested in Agriculture, than any other magazine which circulates in the Middle or Southern States, and therefore is the best medium for advertisers who desire to extend their sales in this territory.

☞ We call attention to our Reduction in
Price of Subscription.

☞ Read in the advertisements for this
month our 13 Reasons Why every Farmer
should Subscribe for, and every Business
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DR. KENDALL'S valuable little book on the horse
and his diseases, can be had at our office or sent by
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OR HOW THEY ARE CULTIVATED ON THE UPPER
RHINE VALLEY, by A. H. Hofer. A treatise every
grape grower should have. Price 50 cents, at our
office or sent by mail postage paid.

☞ Our friends can do us a good turn by men-
tioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neigh-
bors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

YOUNG MEN!

It is an easy way to make money by getting
subscribers for THE MARYLAND FARMER. Send
to cents for Specimen Copies, and ascertain what
Liberal Commissions we will allow.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS !

The reading matter in the MARYLAND FARMER will never be lessened by advertisements. We feel called upon to make this statement, as the large increasing circulation of our paper *naturally* increases the amount of advertisements, therefore we wish to say most positively to our subscribers, that the reading matter in the FARMER will always contain not less than 32 full pages monthly. and often 36 to 38; and should our advertisements reach 100 pages, it will not lessen the reading matter, but likely to increase it. We feel indebted to our correspondents for their largely increased interest in the FARMER, and we are sincerely thankful for the promptness of our subscribers in renewing their subscriptions since the commencement of the year 1879.

State Tax-payers Convention.

The State Tax-payers' Convention met in Baltimore on the 11th of August. It was composed of about one hundred gentlemen from eight or nine counties of the State. Judge William M. Merrick presided, and delivered an able address upon the subject, and also submitted a series of resolutions, which were embodied in the Report of the Committee on Resolutions, and were passed unanimately. These resolutions embraced the sentiments of the members of the convention, and set forth the chief causes of complaint of the tax-payers, leaving the many details of grievances to be set forth in an appeal to be prepared for presentation to the Legislature by a committee to be appointed by the President, of which the President is to be the Chairman, and which committee is to be called at the proper time by the President of the Convention. The objects to be attained by this movement are laudable and highly important, and we believe will be sustained by all sober-minded and patriotic citizens of those counties of the State not represented in this Convention.

The individual worth and the high character of the members of the Convention, reflected credit upon the State, and gives great weight to the measures of relief they propose to suggest to the next Legislature.

THANKS! An old subscriber, Mr. J. H. F., of Barton county, Ga., shows his appreciation of the MARYLAND FARMER, by paying up in advance to January 1881.

Our Visitors.

The genial editor and proprietor of the "*Marlboro' Gazette*" of Maryland, paid us a short call lately—Mr. J. S. Wilson is the youngest editor of the oldest rural weekly newspaper in the State. Under the management of his father, it prospered, because it was ably conducted and noted for its courtesy and high-tone, and its popularity rendered it a favorite medium for advertisers. Under its present management it has gone on unchecked in its growing popularity and increased in its prosperity.—So may it continue!

C. Henry Loney, Esq., did us the favor to call, and we were highly gratified by our short interview with this gentleman. He seems enthusiastic about the State Fair of Pennsylvania, which has not held a meeting in Philadelphia for a long time, perhaps 22 years. Mr. Loney was the liberal donator of rare seeds and fibres to the museum of the Maryland Agricultural College, lately, which Professor Warfield noticed in our July number. In his extended researches in science he has been enabled to procure and furnish to several learned Societies in the country, specimens of plants, seeds, fibres for manufacture, and facts which were of great practical worth, and have been acknowledged as such by the recipients.

Maryland Agricultural Fairs for 1879.

We stated in our imperfect list of fairs last month, that the Baltimore County Society would hold its first fair at Cockeysville, that was an error: We learn from its president, James Brady, Esq., that it will hold its meeting on its own grounds at *Timonium*, on the Northern Central R. R., about 11 miles from Baltimore City, on the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th of September. Owing to its locality and the enterprise of Baltimore county it ought to be a success, and it has our best wishes.

Hon. Wm. T. Hamilton, democratic candidate for Governor of Maryland, will deliver the address before the Society on Thursday, September 11. Mr. Hamilton has a wide reputation as a statesman, lawyer and orator, but is as well known at home as a practical and extensive farmer, being one of the most successful agriculturists in the State. A better selection could not well have been made. His experience and great abilities give an assurance of an unusual intellectual treat which will call together a large number of farmers to enjoy the feast.

We regret this Society in its start should have made what we deem a gross mistake, in offering no list of premiums or diplomas for specific agri-

cultural implements, while requiring \$2 from each exhibitor even if he exhibits but one article.

Agricultural machinery is conceded to be a highly important feature in every Exhibition of this character, and this fact is shown by the premiums given to this class in all the programmes of State and County Fairs. The Baltimore county Society offer a very large list of premiums for stock of all kinds, poultry, rabbits, dairy and horticultural products, every variety of house-hold manufacture, etc., but no premium for any one agricultural implement is offered; there are two medals for the largest and second largest display of agricultural machinery and implements. Exhibitors who may have only one or more articles, however novel and useful, cannot compete, as the premiums are available only to those who may be able to stand the great expense of making a large and showy display of all sorts of old and new machinery. It is the number of exhibitors and variety of articles that excite competition and enhance the public interest, and tend to the advancement of the agricultural interest, for every step in the improvement of agricultural implements, lightens the labors and enhances the profits of the husbandman.

FAIRS.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE FAIR, will be held in Philadelphia on the Centennial Exhibition grounds on September 8th, and continue until the 20th inclusive. It is expected to be well worthy the immense numbers of visitors, who, beyond doubt, will visit the Fair during the two weeks it will hold. Fine Stock from many States will be attracted there by the large premiums offered for stock.

NATIONAL FAIR ASSOCIATION.—At a late meeting of the directors it was resolved that subscriptions to the stock shall cease when the amount shall reach \$50,000. The directors concluded their negotiations with Mr. Hill, the owner of the grounds at Benning's, agreeing to pay him for the same \$40,000—\$23,000 cash and \$12,000 in paid-up stock.

This is a new organization formed in Washington City—the Capital of the Nation—and we are glad to hear is built on a substantial basis, and will offer a premium list second only in amount to the great St. Louis Fair. The day of its first meeting has not yet been fixed on.

We again call attention to the meeting at Rochester, N. Y., of the two National Institutions—the "National Agricultural Congress", on the 15th instant, and the "American Pomological Society," on the 17th instant.

THE MIDDLETOWN FAIR.—The Pennsylvania Agricultural and Pomological Association has issued a pamphlet containing a variety of information with regard to its next exhibition, to take place September 30th and October 1st and 2nd.

THE SECOND ANNUAL FAIR of the Alexandria and Fairfax Agricultural and Industrial Association will be held at Alexandria, Va., commencing September 30th, and continuing four days. A liberal list of premiums has been provided.

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY SOCIETY, at Centreville will hold no Fair this year, the Secretary writes us, "owing to the want of a suitable site," we rather think it is owing to an *over-sight*.

HARFORD COUNTY SOCIETY, will hold its Fair on its own grounds at Bel Air, on October 7, 8, 9 and 10. This Society is always a great success. Every farmer and his family call it "our Society," and make it an individual matter to contribute in some way to its success—and it pays all its premiums promptly in hard money — its very Secretary is *Silver*. It will receive its quota from the State this year, which it was fairly entitled to last year, but failed, because of some strict construction of the law by the Comptroller.

THE AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL SOCIETY at Parkersburg, Va., will hold its Fair on the 16, 17 and 18 of September.

THE AUTUMN RACES.—The fall races of the Maryland Jockey Club, at Pimlico, which are to commence Tuesday, October 21st, and continue four days, promise to be unusually successful in bringing together a great number of the fastest horses in the country, and a brilliant meeting is confidently predicted.

ANOTHER SALE OF MARYLAND HEREFORDS.—We learn that the Hon. John Merryman of Hayfields, Baltimore county, Md., lately sold to the Messrs. Parsons of Ohio, two cows and one heifer from his fine herd for \$720. There seems to be a steadily increasing demand for this large breed of cattle, and the prices for the same are advancing.

STATISTICS OF THE PRODUCTION in the South in each year from 1870 to 1878, inclusive, of cotton, sugar and tobacco, show that the crop of cotton in 1878 was about 400,000 bales larger than it was in any preceding year; the production of sugar 53,000 hogsheads larger, and the yield of tobacco greater by 12,000,000 pounds—the totals for the year being: Cotton, bales, 5,200,000; sugar, hogsheads, 212,000; tobacco, pounds, 572,000,000.—*Balto. Sun.*

Agricultural Exhibitions.

As the season for agricultural exhibitions is now close to hand, it seems proper that their object and mode of being conducted should be considered. In the first place there seems to be an appropriateness that an opportunity should be afforded the tillers of the soil to make an exhibition and comparison of the products of their labor.

In order to effect this it is necessary that there should be some sort of responsible combination, and this is found in the agricultural society or association. And here it may be said that few agricultural societies come up to what they ought to be; it is not enough that a society should be formed for the simple and sole purpose of conducting an agricultural and mechanical exhibition, although this remains the only service that most societies accomplish.

The occupation of the farmer is of sufficient importance to demand a small expenditure of time in the consideration and discussion of those subjects which are of interest to him, and this could be effected by becoming a member of a live agricultural institution.

An agricultural society is supposed to be made up of the active and energetic farmers of the community wherein it is formed, and yet how often are they found to be made up of merchants, manufacturers and others who desire to employ the annual exhibitions as a medium for advertising their wares, while the farmer can hardly be induced to become a member. Nor is this all; it is too often the case that in addition to the classes above named, there are a multitude of *fast horse* men who become members for the sole purpose of largely shaping the action of the society in the direction of a horse interest.

With these conflicting elements it is not surprising that the true farmer finally loses his interest in both the society and its exhibitions. Now, what should be the true design of an agricultural exhibition? It is perfectly proper that all classes of industry should be fully accommodated and represented, since agriculture depends on other industries, and other industries depend upon agriculture; but at the same time the entire management should be in the hands of farmers, and every thing conducted with a direct view to his benefit. It should be the aim of farmers to make the day of exhibition one of pleasure and profit,—pleasure, in the opportunity of forming new acquaintances and forming friendly associations that will continue to enliven life and lighten its burdens, and profit in the opportunity of comparing different modes of culture, and different varieties of crops,

by which an increase can be gained. This is of more importance than the mere effort on the part of different individuals to out-do one another in the production of some mammoth specimens of vegetable, without any system of cultivation that could be adopted in general culture.

It would be much more for the interest of every farmer, to have described to him the mode of preparation of soil, manuring and cultivation of an acre of any kind of crop that has produced more than an average yield than to simply pass along and view specimens of enormous beets, turnips, onions, potatoes or any other vegetables that might be named, and yet how very frequently are these the objective points of our modern exhibitions. Very few societies, we imagine, have any spirited competition in the line of the best acres of any or all of our standard crops. Perhaps one reason for this state of affairs can be found in the want of proper discrimination in the offering of premiums. It is frequently the case that one-fourth as much is offered for the best head of cabbage or peck of potatoes as is offered for the best acre of any crop. Now while every farmer has a natural pride in the production of a superior crop of any kind a simple premium of two or three dollars is not an incentive to effort in the same proportion that a premium of fifty cents for a large cabbage would be; for in one case the field of effort is very limited, with a prospect of fair reward for extra exertion, while in the other case the reward comes from the increase crop and is just as sure without exhibition.

It should be the policy of the managers of all agricultural exhibitions to encourage agricultural effort that shall tend towards adding very materially to the wealth of the country by means of the increase of producers; when this is done there will be a more healthy interest in agricultural societies and their exhibitions and agriculture will receive a new impetus and the result will be an increased, substantial prosperity to our whole country.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS.

THANKS! The officers of the Frederick and of the Carroll County Agricultural Societies will accept thanks for complimentary tickets to their respective Fairs, and we hope to show our appreciation by being present at both Exhibitions.

A Wicomico farmer commenced the year with 30 sheep. He has sold lambs and sheep from his flock for the sum of \$102; has sold wool for \$43.18—making \$145.18—and has 30 sheep and lambs left. The cost of keeping has not exceeded \$25,

HORTICULTURAL.

We extract from that beautiful monthly, *Vick's Illustrated Magazine* for August, the following articles, concerning two plants which should be in every collection, that those who may desire to have them may know that next month is a good time to procure them. We owe thanks to Mr. Vick for the loan of the fine illustrations of these very pretty flowers:

Flowering Currants.

To a gentleman in Salem, Oregon, we are indebted for several specimens of the Flowering Currants of that region, with a kind offer to forward seeds or cuttings. The Flowering Currants have been long cultivated in the nurseries of both Europe and America, and can be obtained anywhere, at the price of ordinary flowering shrubs. Several double varieties have been grown from seed, and an engraving of one of them, which we have had in our possession a score of years, we

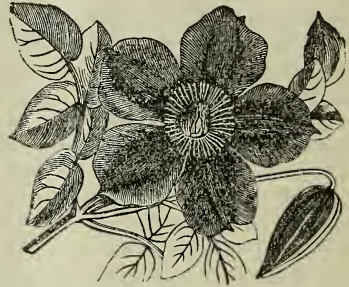


give to our readers. Florists have so thoroughly

searched the world for new plants that it is not easy to find anything of value that has escaped their vigilance. Hundreds of plants are sent us every year as new and unknown, with which we are quite familiar. We are none the less thankful to our friends for their zeal and kindness, for in this way we have been enabled to add a great many things to our herbarium that we did not before possess.

The Clematis.

In one of the numbers of the *Magazine* of last year, in describing several kinds of climbers, you recommended the Clematis, and so highly that I obtained the largest plant I could get last autumn, and set it in front of my piazza. It has now more than forty large blue flowers—almost as large as my hand—and is one of the most interesting plants I have ever seen, for so small a one. Last week I



returned from a somewhat extended journey, and although so well pleased with my little plant, I would not write you about it, but when away I saw scores of good, large Clematis plants, wonders of beauty. It seems to me this is destined to be the finest flowering climber, for America. I am so pleased with it that I want all your readers to know about it. I have seen several kinds, of different names and colors, but none seem to be so vigorous and flower so abundantly as *Jackmanii*. This is a deep, rich blue.—M. H. D. Frankfort, Ky.

What Garden Have You?

The best paying plot on any farm, and the one yielding the most enjoyment, too, is the vegetable garden—or "kitchen garden" as it is frequently called, and quite appropriately, especially when the "kitchen folks" have the chief or sole care of it. A good supply of garden products for the table costs less than the standard bread, meat, and potatoes, is more healthful and nourishing than all corn beef, salt pork, and the small assortment usually found on the farmer's table. Need we add

anything about palatableness, comfort, home-enjoyment? Contrast a table set nearly the year round with bread, salt pork, corned beef, potatoes, boiled cabbage, varied with hash, mush, buckwheats, and occasionally a few other items, with a table well supplied in succession and abundantly with Asparagus, Green Peas, Lima Beans, String Beans, Sweet Corn, Radishes, Carrots, Beets, Parsnips, Celery, Salsify, Turnips, Cauliflower, Spinach, Lettuce, Egg Plants, Tomatoes, (all the year), Rhubarb, Okra, Squashes, Onions, Cabbage, Cucumbers(?) and other things,—filled in with Currants, Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, not to mention Grapes, Pears, etc. We do not accept the standing excuse, "I am too poor, too hard driven, too much to do in my field, to bother with the garden." We repeat, with emphasis, that every farmer can have most, if not all the above pleasant and healthful variety with less labor and less expense than the table can be supplied in any other way. Every day's work in the garden will produce several dollars' worth of good things. One quarter of an acre, more or less, according to the size of the family, will suffice. Select the best soil available, as near the house as possible, but at a distance if absolutely necessary. A good loam where water never stands is desirable. Heavy clay will not do well without a good deal of preparation. If not naturally dry, underdraining is desirable, but even an open ditch around the plot, and one or two through it if needed, may answer for the present. Plow and harrow fine, working in a liberal supply of the best well rotted manure that can be obtained—half a wagon load on every square rod will be all the better, but much less can be got along with.—*The California Farmer.*

Blackberries and Raspberries

Again we would press upon our readers the great importance of growing the above stocky and with branches. It is a great mistake to allow them to grow up tall and spindling and then in the fall or next spring have to cut off one-half to two-thirds of the wood and cane to make stock to bear fruit. Watch the new growth, and when it gets two to three feet high (owing to stockiness of plant, if they be small two feet, and large three feet) nip off the tip end of the new growth with the fingers or with a knife or shears. This causes them to branch out and throw up other leaders, and when these have made a growth of two feet nip these off at tip end also. Young spring set plants should be nipped off when not over one foot high.—*Fruit Recorder.*

Parlor Ornaments for Winter.

We call attention to the following letter of an esteemed friend in Baltimore county, who takes a interest in all matters appertaining to house-hold comfort and adornment, and whose reputation for excellent taste is proverbial :

For the Maryland Farmer.

A very beautiful ornament for your parlors in winter, and your verandas in summer, can be made in the following manner :

Procure as many empty paint casks or kegs, as you wish, of the size to suit your taste, or better still, the iron bound butter pail, or tub as they are some times called, and fill to well nigh 'the top with rich earth or wood loam, first boring holes in the buckets' bottom to permit the water to drain off; then in some shady, damp, rocky place, select the different varieties of the Fern, which grow abundantly; take the medium sized ones up very carefully, with a small lump of their own soil around their roots, and transplant to your prepared boxes or kegs in such order and selection as your taste may dictate. You can fill in later on in the season with smaller specimens of Fern, until the whole box or keg is concealed at the top by the foliage. Keep your boxes in a semi-dark or damp spot if practicable, and water slightly every few days, until you see your plants take kindly to their new condition, when you can give them more *light* but very little *sun*, and water at your discretion.

When they die down in the autumn, paint your boxes any color to suit your fancy, but the kegs should be of some vivid hue if for hall ornamentation—a very deep, dark red for the wooden parts with the hoops painted in black, or some high mixture as taste may suggest, first giving the whole bucket a good priming.

Some plants will die down, but if removed into the house, and placed where they can get sun and warmth, they will re-appear and make most beautiful ornaments to your hall or parlors.

Summer Cultivation of Strawberries.

The *Rural Messenger*, published at Petersburg, Va., after speaking of the value of this delicious fruit, says :

"In this connection the following from the pen of Mr. J. R. Young, of Norfolk county, in regard to the summer cultivation of the strawberry may be of use to some of our readers. Mr. Young is probably the largest grower of strawberries in the world, his annual shipments often amounting to 3,000,000 baskets. He says: 'For a clayey loam,

ilable to harden after storms, I prefer the narrow row culture, with the rows as close together as they can be worked. After heavy rains, as soon as the ground has dried sufficiently, I run a fine steel-toothed harrow between the rows, just deep enough to pulverize the surface. Kept loose, there will be no baking of the crust. In working young vines I keep my cultivators going from the middle of April till the middle of October, never allowing the surface to harden, or to lie undisturbed long enough to permit the weeds to start. I do not believe in working vines the spring they are bearing. Immediately after the crops are harvested I start the cultivators and give the old vines the same treatment as the young. I very seldom carry the vines longer than three years."

Pine-Apple.

In Dr. Dalrimple's translation of Father White's account of the colony of Lord Baltimore, or a narrative of a voyage in Maryland in 1633, when speaking of the Isle Barbadoes, among other horticultural products that were wonderful to him, he says of the Pine-apple — "It excels all the other fruits that I have tasted anywhere else in the world; it is of golden color, and is excellent when mixed with wine, and as large as three or four of the European nuts of the same name, but not much unlike them in shape. * * * It has a spicy taste, which as nearly as I can guess, is like that of strawberries, mixed with wine and sugar. It is of great service in preserving health, agreeing so nicely with the human constitution, that although it corrodes iron, it strengthens man more, perhaps than anything else; nor do you find it on a high tree, but a single fruit coming out on each root, like the artichoke." Of the Guava, he says—"It is golden color and shaped like a lime, yet in its taste resembles the quince. It is of the color of the Pawpaw and not unlike it in shape, but it is very sweet, it is only used for preserving."

Phylloxera Remedy.

The proprietor of a vineyard at Ivigany, in the Department of the Rhone, bethought himself of introducing strawberry plants between the rows of vines. The strawberry plants selected were of a kind which produced large berries, because these berries either engender or attract an insect that takes a pleasure in seeking out, pursuing, and devouring the phylloxera. It was like setting one pest to destroy another. The plan was amazingly successful. The strawberry insect sought out and killed the vine insect on so sweeping a scale that

very soon not a phylloxera was left, and the vines were left in peace to grow their grapes in perfection. This ingenious device has been followed by other vine-growers with equal success, and we are told that their vines have been perfectly healthy since the strawberry plants were introduced among them. A vine-grower in Maderia has announced that he averts any damage from the phylloxera by the simple means of cleaning the roots of the vines as far as it is safe to uncover them, and then applying a mixture of Canada balsam and turpentine.—*Harper's Weekly*.

For the Maryland Farmer.

A Pennsylvania Farm—Results of Industry and Intelligence Applied to Small Farming.

Mr. Editor:—Instead of a regular article, a *task* by the way when old Sol. is in the nineties, I am able to comply with your wish, made some time ago, to be furnished with the description of a Pennsylvania farm, and thus so lay before your readers another illustration in the question of "small versus large farming;" that a small acreage intelligently and thoroughly cultivated will show far better results than a large area worked carelessly and without the appliance of means and modes which an advanced agriculture places at the disposition of the farmer. The material for this illustration I find in the farm and management of my friend, Mr. John Rishel, whose place—located three miles from Bellefonte, in the county of Centre, State of Pennsylvania—I have lately visited. The soil of this section is a lime stone with a large admixture of flint, hence admirably adapted for the cultivation of the cereals and grasses and a mixed husbandry, responding well to some dressings, the use of Plaster of Paris and barnyard manure.

Mr. Rishel entered into possession of his farm in 1863, has raised a family of three sons and one daughter, giving to them the advantages of collegiate education. The farm consists of 130 acres divided into 6 fields of 20 acres each, and two pasture plots of 5 acres each. The rotation of crops differs from that usually in vogue in this section, the change based upon Mr. R.'s opinion that the low price of corn at present does not justify a four year rotation. His rotation is as follows: First year, manure corn; second year, oats; third year, manure wheat with timothy and clover; fourth year, clover and grass crop; fifth year, wheat with timothy and clover; sixth year, manure corn. By this rotation, Mr. R. is enabled to use every plot at the same time following oats after corn,

whilst his neighbors, following corn by wheat, leave a field idle part of the year. He does not consider barley profitable, and only plants potatoes sufficient for family use, say one half acre taken from corn field. Stock on farm, a dozen head of cattle, 8 or 10 horses including colts; hogs, &c. Being near to the city he sells annually about 45 tons of hay, and furnishes straw for bedding to city stables and hauls out in return manure amounting to from 250 to 300 loads. The result of this farming is: Corn average 100 bushels to the acre has raised 150; wheat average 32 bushels to the acre has raised 46; oats average 60 bushels to the acre has raised 80.

Amongst the implements in use on this *small* farm I found: One Buckeye Cultivator, one Hanches' Patent Cultivator, New Champion Mower, Hubbard Reaper, Horse Rakes, Corn Planters, Oliver Patent Chilled Plows, with wheels, &c. As regards this latter, viz: the Oliver Chilled, he considers it superior to Heckendern's, as being more adapted to strong ground.

As regards stock, Mr. R. thinks he has given a fair trial to the Alderney, but finds after a six to eight years' use that his stock is getting too light, and while satisfied with milking qualities, thinks that animals can be turned off to the butcher at fifty dollars as well as from twenty to twenty-five, hence has given order for thoroughbred short-horn bull and heifer to cross on stock in hand and thus regain size.

The price of land in Mr. R.'s section varies from 60 to 100 dollars per acre, whilst Mr. R.'s excellent management has enabled him to place his farm in a state of cultivation which would lead him to refuse a 135 dollars per acre. Even upon the latter high valuation he thinks he realizes a net profit of 10 per cent.

For purposes of fencing Mr. R. has purchased 60 acres of mountain land 8 or 10 miles distant from his farm and only worth its timber price.

Having thus, Mr. Editor, placed before you an outline sketch of this *small* Pennsylvania farm managed by a gentleman whose modesty has repeatedly caused him to decline the chairmanship of the agricultural society of his county, I permit myself to draw a few opposite deductions. Mr. R.'s success, hardly to be equaled in *this* section, is the result of a suitable super-structure raised upon a proper foundation. The foundation in this case being a thorough practical farmer's life, the super-structure, a making use of the scientific information at command of every intelligent farmer.

A gentleman who can select a rotation of crops most suitable to his soil and section, cross breeds

to meet the demands of a cattle market, employ implements of the most approved style and manufacture, irrespective of the draw back of a first outlay, such a gentleman can well be considered an authority in agriculture, though refusing office for which the main qualifications seems to be that of county court house lawyer.

Again we place this description of Mr. R.'s farm prominently before those who think that successful agriculture depends upon the number of acres rather than their quality, the amount of money invested rather than its per centage to be returned, and whose dread of being considered *small* farmers, causes them to hold on to estates, that are alike burdensome to brain and pocket.

Whether we have any such in the good old State of Maryland, I leave you, Mr. Editor, and your readers to judge, and hardly thinking it necessary to point my tale with any further moral.

I remain truly yours, HAYFIELD.

GEN. MEEM'S STOCK SALE.—A large crowd of people, including the leading farmers and stock-raisers of the Shenandoah Valley, attended the annual sheep and cattle sale of Gen. Gilbert S. Meem near Mt. Jackson, Va., Wednesday. Two hundred and seventy-five sheep—Southdowns, Cotswolds and high-grade Cotswolds—were disposed of at prices ranging from \$7 to \$50, and averaging about \$20. Quite a number of pure Kentucky-breed Shorthorn cattle were also disposed of at prices ranging from \$50 up. Mr. W. M. Clements, master of transportation, Baltimore and Ohio railroad, purchased largely. He is stocking his fine farm, recently purchased, near Summit Point, West Va., with the best thoroughbred herd-book stock. Gen. Meem had made ample provision for feeding the multitude. Nineteen sheep and a due proportion of Old Virginia hams and good bread, with many gallons of iced butter-milk and sweet milk composed the lunch.

MR. ALEXANDER DELMAR, considered excellent authority, writes to the *Chicago Times* that this year's wheat crop of the world will amount to about 1,540,000,000 bushels; that this will create a deficiency in certain countries of about 225,000,000 bushels, and that this deficiency will be made good by purchases from certain other countries in about the following proportions: The United States, 150,000,000; Russia, 50,000,000; Roumania, 20,000,000, and Canada, Australia and India, 5,000,000 bushels.—*Balto. Sun.*

[In this statement, the wheat grower should find encouragement. If 150,000,000 bushels of wheat are to be exported from this country during the year, it should cause activity in the market and advance prices or at least maintain wheat at a price which will repay the growers for their labor.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

THE NEW PEACH, "WATERLOO."



We are indebted to Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry, of Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y., for the above cut of their new peach, "Waterloo."

WATERLOO.—A seedling originated in Waterloo, N. Y., by Mr. Henry Lisk of that place, from whom we purchased the original tree and the exclusive right to propagate and sell it.

Size—Medium to large, good specimens measuring nine inches in circumference and weighing five ounces.

Form—Round, with a deep suture on one side, from stem to apex; stalk in a deep cavity; apex slightly depressed.

Color—Pale whitish green in the shade, marbled red deepening into dark purple crimson in the sun.

Flesh—Greenish white, with abundance of sweet vinous juice; adheres considerably to the stone like Hale's, Amsden, etc.

Season—The first specimen ripened this season July 14th, and measured ten inches in circumference. All were picked and mostly overripe on the 19th of July. It is believed to be a week earlier than Alexander and Amsden. Mr. Lisk says that in the summer of 1877 it ripened several days earlier than these varieties, and this year, judging from unripe specimens of Alexander and Amsden, now before us, we think "Waterloo" fully a week in advance. It is a remarkable keeper, ripe specimens having been kept in perfect condition in our office nearly a week after being picked. These same specimens were ripe at the time they were gathered. It will therefore be of value for shipping. We think we are perfectly safe in rating it as the largest and finest of all the very early peaches.

Maryland the Home for Immigrants—Its Advantages and Resources.

KENT COUNTY.

We do not know how we can portray the physical aspect, the moral and social status of glorious "old Kent County, than by giving a short and unembellished narrative of observation made by us during a recent visit to this inviting portion of the State. It is called "old Kent," because there is no doubt it was the first or next to the first soil permanently inhabited by the earlier employers of this State. Kent county lies beautifully, being almost an island. It is bounded on the east by the Chesapeake Bay, south and south-west by Chester River, which separates it from Queen Anne's county. The Sassafrass River divides it from Cecil county. If the two miles it adjoins Delaware was a canal, uniting the head waters of the Sassafrass and Chester Rivers, it would be truly an island. It has an area of 240 square miles, or about 144,000 acres. The surface is but slightly diversified, and the land *naturally* fertile; well wooded, and water in plenty drained by the two rivers above mentioned. It is almost level as a prairie. It is now in a high state of fertility, and is the peach and pear region of the whole country, outrivalling, for its extent, the fruit State of Delaware, and the once famous land of peaches—New Jersey.

OUR VISIT.

Leaving Baltimore at 8 A. M., on one of the scorching days of August, we reached, after a pleasant breezy ride on the "Pilot Boy," of two hours, across the bay, Tolchester Beach, a new and pleasant resort for pleasure parties, who like salt-water bathing and dancing, and other recreative amusements, and where the good people of Kent, every Friday evening, assemble for 10 or 12 miles around, bringing wives and children to enjoy themselves and interchange good fellowship, until the "wee sma' hours," after the *olden* fashion, under the *new* rule of "*local option*," which here, as over the whole county, prevails much to the satisfaction of the sober and sensible denizens of this remarkable moral section of Maryland. Our friend, Dr. A. P. Sharp, met us, and in his carriage, conveyed us with others to his country-seat, "Rock Hall," an old and historic place, with the waves of the Chesapeake laving and marking the bounds of the lawn and garden. The old mansion, 70 feet long, which the Doctor bought, was burned last year, and on its site, he has erected an elegant building with all the modern improvements. It was at "Rock Hall" that Washington made one of

his stopping places in his visits to Mount Vernon, when residing, as President of the United States, at Philadelphia. Other great men of that time,—Jefferson, cum multis alias,—have made, by their visits and their writings, "Rock Hall" famous for its hospitality, which is still gracefully continued in these latter days by its present owner and his accomplished lady. Near to the mansion—a half mile off—is Rock Hall village, neat and clean—like a New England village—where dwell mostly, the hardy sons of the water, whose avocation is to till the abundant waters and support their families from the inexhaustible supplies of fish, fowl and shell-fish, which they catch and send to Baltimore and the North.

"Rock Hill" estate had been neglected and the land run down, until a few years ago it came into the Doctor's possession. His scientific theories, practically applied, has made it blossom as a garden. His corn was the most luxuriant and promising—we remember ever to have seen—particularly the field of "horse tooth" corn, which was fertilized with barn yard manure manufactured as described by him in a recent article in the MARYLAND FARMER. We were shown the process in his barnyard, and like much his theory and his arrangement for carrying out that theory. In his barn and in the yard he has many convenient arrangements, among which is a wind-mill for drawing water—supplying water in the stable and in the yard-trough and can be utilized for other purposes. The Doctor has a large amount of drift wood thrown on his extended bay shore, which he uses in burning oyster shells, and the bay brings close to his barnyard, sea-ore, a species of grass which he converts into manure by mixing in his manure pile; it is impregnated with salt and when fresh and green it adds to the heat without burning the manure and thus rapidly decomposes the dung or coarse manure into a substance fine enough almost to pass through a drill. It furnishes when partly dry, good bedding for the stock both in the stable and under the open sheds of the barnyard. We closely inspected the method of improvement at Rock Hall. We found but little to find fault with, and that was only we regret to say—we may be wrong—that we found the Doctor inexorable about *improved* breeds of stock. He had a fine herd of common cows, which gave good returns at the pail, but would not admit that high priced thoroughbreds would do better. This is the prevailing sentiment in this county, and it will be long before the people will be convinced that improved breeds of stock and the addition of many more in numbers, will be advantageous to their interest. It is in our judgment

an error, but they may know better than us. The Doctor had pasture for more than four times the amount of stock we saw. This was the fact in all places where we had an opportunity to ascertain. We here remark that the only *blat* on the fair face of Kent is want of stock of every kind; and it is so strange! With every facility of transportation and such rich pastures as it affords that no where do you see an amount at all proportionate to the grass production of the land. Mark well here, because we think this non-attention to stock growing and fattening is the only incubus that rests upon this wonderfully productive county. Hundreds of thousands of dollars would be added to the receipts of Kent, if the people would only raise more stock and poultry and fewer peaches and other fruits. The fruits may soon be played out as *remarkably remunerative* crop. Meat will always be remunerative. This is the only fault we found with Kent—not only enough stock—hardly a supply for their own wants. We should regret if we offend any one by this declaration, but the fact was impressed on our mind by personal observation and by conversation with the few who had tried stock breeding and grazing on a small scale. We were promised by an intelligent gentleman a statement of his first venture in sheep, which will fully sustain our views. Yet he said “I hardly venture to keep sheep because I fear I may have my whole flock killed by dogs.” Ye people who can so nobly fight for the temperance cause, why have ye not the power to suppress the horde of worthless dogs? The other counties of the Eastern Shore furnish the crack mutton of the Baltimore market. Why should not Kent with all its wonderful facilities do the same?

Through the kindness of Dr. Sharp, we were driven—behind a fine team of perfectly broken, handsome four year olds of the Doctor's own raising—to the houses of several first-class farmers and hospitably received. Among these were Mr. C. Wilkerson whose farm in high culture bounds on the bay and Swan Creek, and which a few years ago was in bad condition and covered with a stunted growth; Mr. C. A. Leary whose fine pear orchard in full bearing was a sight for any lover of horticulture to behold with pleasure. Mr. A. L. Corey whose farm and orchard are in perfect keeping; here we examined his flourishing peach orchard of over 4,000 trees in full bearing, and saw improved stock. Mr. C. informed us that 13 years ago he came from New Hampshire and settled on this farm, without a single fruit tree upon it and destitute of barns and other improvements. He showed us a large sugar beet lot, which however had been much injured by

the potato beetle, and said he had bought this season for himself and neighbors 70 pounds of German sugar beet seed, that they might experiment with this beet which is just now attracting so much attention and which our journal has so constantly and warmly advocated as a new and important industry.

During a long and delightful ride with our friend, Sharp, over the finest of roads on the ridge or backbone of the county, which is a high, wide platan of very fertile soil as level as a bowling green, like an Illinois prairie, dotted over with fine houses, extensive fields of grass, and corn divided by neatly trimmed osage orange hedges, of which there are miles and miles in this county. We passed many noted old family seats, among which was the splendid Ringgold estate, lately sold for something like only \$40 per acre. As an evidence of what is accomplished by new settlers, we were shown several farms which had been reclaimed, as it were, and further improved by fine buildings, &c., one of which was that of Mr. Ambrewster, near Tolchester, and a fine field of corn growing where a few years ago, men shot wild ducks, it being a great pond frequented by wild fowl. We frequently examined the soil, and found every where it was a fine loam with little gravel in it, not a stiff nor sandy soil, but that good admixture which is so prized by tobacco planters of southern Maryland. Orchards were everywhere, and great stacks and ricks of straw, many of more than a years standing untouched for the want of cattle to consume or tramp it under foot. The average yield is from 20 to 30 bushels on the best farms and over the county we learned was from 15 to 20 bushels per acre. Considerable lime is being used. Besides the facilities of water communication, this county has its interior traversed by railroads, so that no homestead is more than 3 miles from some point where the product of the farm can be shipped to market. A better agricultural county than that which is seen on the road from Rock Hall to the Delaware line is not to be found in this country.

We regretfully parted with our friend on his handing us over to Mr. Corey, who gave us the kindest welcome.

From here we went to our headquarters, the hospitable home of Mr. W. W. Stephens, president of Kent County Agricultural Society. He took us over his large peach orchards some 10,000 trees and showed us his barns, hedges, stock and fields, and the great crowd of poultry of all descriptions which belong to his estimable wife, one of the very best housekeepers in the State, and celebrated for her preserves, pickles and canned fruit, long before the latter art was so much practiced.

Mr. S. took us to the Kent fair grounds, near Chestertown, and we were pleased to see that they had been improved and to learn that other improvements are to be made this season, and that it was *out of debt*. The whole country about Chestertown is highly improved. We passed Washington College, in the suburbs of the ancient town. After a short call on our brothers of the *Transcript*, we rode through the town, viewing the old church and court house, and had pointed out to us the houses in which Judge Chambers, J. A. Pearce, A. Constable and other great men of Kent, once lived, which called to our mind many valued reminiscences of "good old times."

We left this county impressed with the belief that in this country no better location can be found or desired by an immigrant to make his home and build up his fortunes, and we base this conclusion upon the following reasons: The land is highly improved or susceptible of improvement at small cost; it is healthy; roads first-rate; water good and abundant; society of the best class; the waters abounding in all the luxuries of fish and fowl; facilities to market unusually great; with schools, mills, churches, and little villages at points convenient to every farm. The lands are, low in price, ranging from \$20 to \$70, which is cheap when we consider the manifold advantages that attach to every portion; grain and fruit are its chief products. We heard that the annual yield one year, with another of a bearing peach orchard, was an average of one bushel to each tree, and the price was gross 50 to 60 cents per box or bushel. Peaches therefore are a paying crop as yet.

We have received from a reliable correspondent the following communication in regard to the advantages of Howard county, which we cheerfully lay before our readers.

HOWARD COUNTY.

Clarksville, Md., July 28, 1879.

Editors Maryland Farmer:—

I notice your article on the immigration question in the last number of the *MARYLAND FARMER*, and I am greatly pleased at your efforts to give wide publicity to the claims of Maryland upon those seeking homes from the icy regions of the north, the blistering heats of the south, or the despotism of Europe. The move made by the Grangers of Prince George's shows they are progressive, and this is another of the many works of good will characteristic of the order. You state you rely on your friends to forward you for publication an enumeration of the advantages of the different counties in the State,

and I submit the claims of Howard. I trust that the time will soon come when this matter will all be systemized and a full statement of the claims of Maryland made and published to the world and under competent authority.

The great question of relief from the onerous burden of taxation now weighing down the energies of the people is directly affected by the immigration question. If we could bring a few millions of capital into the state and develop our latent resources by trade, manufactures and agriculture the proportion for each dollar of property to pay would soon be reduced to a tolerable sum.

Howard County is situated mid-way between the great Atlantic seaport Baltimore and Washington—the capital of the Great Republic. Her eastern border is within two hours drive (or an hours R. R. ride) of the former, and her western border within three hours drive of the latter. In miles we average about 20 miles from Baltimore and about 24 from Washington. Our lands are of various kinds and qualities—sandy, micaceous and granite soil, of excellent agricultural qualities, and mostly capable of being brought to a high state of fertility. I could give instances of the production of 30 bushels of wheat per acre on old run-down, worn-out land that was bought for \$15 to \$25 per acre. Land is selling from \$10 up. Surface of the land is rolling and supplied by as good springs as the parched lips of man could desire. We raise corn 3 to 15 barrels per acre; wheat 10 to 35 bushels per acre; oats 10 to 50 bushels; rye, buckwheat, tobacco, grapes, small fruits and all the vegetables, and apples, peaches, quinces and pears. Schools and churches, Catholic and Protestant, are abundant; academies and colleges for those who desire advanced educational facilities are scattered over all the county. The county is full of strangers from Ellicott city back to the Patuxent, from Europe, North, South and other counties of Maryland. The people are intelligent, hospitable and progressive, and any patient, industrious and intelligent worker willing to take hold and work and wait for results, can make himself a good home and be a respected, a useful and an honored member of an appreciative community. Respectfully yours, L.

We call the attention of our readers in search of good homes in the West to the advertisement of Farms and Homes in another column, and advise all to send to S. Gilmore, Salina, Kansas, for a free copy of the *Homestead*, a paper published in the interest of all desiring cheap homes in a good country.

Live Stock Register.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Horses, Mares, Colts.

Messrs. Editors.—I have written you about other stock, but, I believe, not about the above heading, and probably this may not be unacceptable. A farmer having a good mare (he ought to have no other) ought to select a good sound horse of good disposition to raise from. I hear many complaints of clover preventing success if a mare's system is out of order, my idea is the surest and quickest way to change it is by salivation, and put them on such clover as will do it soonest. I think surety of a horse is a humbug—the mare's system being right is a necessity.

When a mare is about foaling she ought to be watched closely, they sometimes bring twins, which, owing to their feebleness, rarely live; they could be generally saved by drawing milk from their mother, or a cow, and pouring it down their throats. After that the mother ought to be fed on corn meal slops.

Colts coming in the fall make the best saddle, work and harness horses; the owner feeds the mare, she feeds the colt; in the spring the colt is weaned on fresh grass, and getting no backset grows straight ahead. After weaning, the mare should have sometime to recuperate her system before propagating again. Although in growing, a colt should not be loaded with fat, giving a tendency to sluggishness, yet he should never be poor, it gives a coarse head and impairs beauty; ought always to be in good *growing* order. In raising him his treatment should be kind; by degrees handle his feet, hammer them. If he has to go through bars or slip gap, lower them to the ground; jumping very much impairs a horse's value. This piece brings colts to three years old—I write this from an experience of 60 years.

Early last spring I did not think a crop of wheat could be made; I saw no appearance of vitality; I never saw so bad a prospect; but we had a soft rain, and following it, two days of hot sun, and I never witnessed so wonderful a change, then until harvest we had cold weather, elegant for wheat, and we had fine crops of wheat; after, we had a long dry spell, very much endangering the corn, but just in time fine rains and suns came, and we will have good crops of corn—a man rarely raises good crops of wheat and corn the same year—the former requiring cool, the latter hot weather. This and last year though, the seasons have greatly favored us in wheat weather until harvest, and fine rains and hot weather after, for

corn. The seasons have changed; we do not get now the April showers and long seasons in May with them; the clover seed sowed in the spring on hard grounds, vegetated and acquired root enough to stand the dry weather in the fall—without them it could not stand the dry weather in the spring, and for years our lands suffered. I have been suggesting to the farmers to sow their clover in the fall immediately after sowing wheat—the ground is open, the seed settles in it, and the little clods dissolve and settle around it, and he gets a crop a year earlier. Some fear the winter freezing may kill the young clover—I have no recollection of young clover being winter killed, though I have of old; but if faith is not held as big as a grain of mustard seed, alternate lands could be sowed to test it. Farmers are slow to change, but you will gain, if you can get them to experiment, still more if they give you its results.

Aug. 11th, '79.

J. W. WARE,

Ohio, July 29th, 1879.

Editor Maryland Farmer. Sir:—Inclosed find post office money order for \$1, and send me the FARMER for one year. I saw the last number of your valuable journal, and can say truthfully that I think that number alone is worth the whole cost of the paper for one year. The great number of interesting subjects discussed in your journal and the splendid cuts of live stock renders your paper most valuable indeed to any breeder as well as dealer in good stock, and I am greatly surprised that there are so many farmers throughout the country who never take these valuable mediums general information. In this part of Ohio we are breeding quite successfully the Short-horn, Durhams, but know but little personally about the new breed called Herefords, of which you give a fine cut in the FARMER. I like the appearance of this stock very much, and they are certainly destined to rival, if not surpass, the Durham sooner or later.

The Cotswold sheep described in the FARMER are bred in Ohio, and very highly prized for their fine carcass, as well as large fleeces. I am not an extensive breeder of any kind of stock, but during the last 15 years I have been extensively engaged in buying and shipping stock for the general market and therefore become acquainted with good stock in many portions of the country.

The splendid cuts of Cheshire swine are natural as life, as shown in the July FARMER, and not at all over drawn, as some of the most perfectly formed animals I have ever seen are of this new breed. This superior stock was introduced to this

part of Ohio by W. G. Smith & Co., some years since, bred by them most successfully, and are now being shipped to all parts of the country. I have, until within the last two years been partial to the dark breeds and fought hard for their reputation and like them still, but I am now fully convinced from personal experience and observation that the beautiful Cheshire swine, are destined to rival and surpass all other breeds, for who does not prefer a beautiful white swine to any other. When a farmer purchases an animal for breeding purposes he wants one of good form, that will fatten at an early age and breed well, and also that will attain a good size and that has a quiet and most amiable disposition, and all this can be found in the character of the Cheshire swine. One year since I bought for the general market a litter of 9 of the Cheshire breed from a farmer, and found to my surprise that with nothing more than good fair care the litter averaged 175 lbs. at just 5 months of age, and I am satisfied they will keep in good condition on less feed than any other breed we have yet had in this part of Ohio and that is saying a great deal when we take in consideration the value of the other leading breeds. I have none of this stock for sale, and have no interest in it, but want to see farmers generally procure the best breeds of all kinds of stock and then take the proper care of the same and we dealers can always give and get remunerative prices for the same.

H. WALTERS.

Chats with the Ladies for September.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

Thou comest, *Autumn*, heralded by the rain.
 With banners, by great gales incessant fanned,
 Brighter than brightest silks of Samareand,
 And stately oxen harnessed to thy wain!
 Thou standest, like imperial Charlemagne,
 Upon thy bridge of Gold; thy royal hand,
 Outstretched with benedictions o'er the land,
 Blessing the farms through all thy vast domain;
 Thy shield is the red harvest moon, suspended
 So long beneath the heaven's o'erhanging eaves,
 Thy steps are by the farmer's prayers attended,
 Like flames upon the altar shine the sheaves;
 And, following thee, in thy ovation splendid,
 Thine Aldmoner, the wind, scatters the golden
 leaves!

Though Longfellow wrote this sonnet many years ago, it is peculiarly appropriate to weather this year, as September has truly come on us "heralded by the rain—rain!" The rainy spell of this last August week will ensue a fine yield of

bloom of the autumnal flowers. These flowers are generally more brilliant and large than the same sorts are in their summer blooming—I mean roses, zinnias, dahlias, and many others I could name.

As an instance, that we often find as much rational pleasure in visiting a friend in the country as is furnished at seaside resorts or obtained at great expense at fashionable watering places, I will give you a brief account of a delightful two days trip to the Eastern Shore, to the beautiful country seat—Rock Hall—owned by Dr. S., of Baltimore. Elsewhere this place has been fully noticed in the columns of this number of the *MARYLAND FARMER*, editorially. In this chat I speak of the social pleasures alone which we enjoyed—by *we*, I mean two young ladies from Baltimore and myself, to whom I was introduced at Tolchester Beach when the Doctor put us in his carriage, under his own special charge as driver.

The heat was way up in the nineties, but we had a fine breeze along the splendid road, and we were charmed with the general aspect of the country, the great orchards of fruits, particularly of peaches. Our intelligent host pointed out and gave a history of every noted spot. One of these was the battle field—known as "Caulk's Field," where the brave militia of that county and other sections neighboring, repulsed under the brave general Read—an eastern-shoreman—the British army commanded by Sir Peter Parker, who was killed in this bloody day.

We soon came to St. Paul's, one of the oldest churches in Maryland, perhaps the oldest P. E. Church. It must have been built over 200 years ago, out of English brick, and the walls appear as solid as the day they were put up. This quaint looking old church stands about the centre of a large lot devoted to a cemetery. The grand old oaks are in true keeping with the church as memorials of the past—the grounds are laid out in walks and lots—each lot is adorned with flowers, shrubs, &c., appropriate to "God's acre." We enjoyed a melancholy satisfaction going over the grounds which are beautifully kept, and in reading the tablets. We will give a few, showing its great antiquity. One marked 1720, one as early as 1667, which bore this inscription:

"As I am, you must be,
 Therefore wait, and follow me."

Under a large tablet, with long inscription, lies the remains of a distinguished man—the ancestor of numerous descendants, who have always held high positions in the county and State—James Tilghman, who died at Chestertown, August 21, 1798. There are many other distinguished men of

Kent who rest in this hallowed ground, but we need not enumerate them. The fine breeze and cool dense shade was a delightful change from the dust and sun of the road. We lingered long gazing on the old church, wondering at the size and grandeur of the oaks, and impressed with the beauty and solemnity of the scene.

After leaving the church we were not very long in reaching our destination, where after a nice dinner served at the very hour—between 1 and 2 o'clock—when every body seems to enjoy that meal most, we separated for a short stay.

The evening was spent by the young folks, in croquet playing and in the two accomplished nieces of the Doctor giving their city friends lessons in horse-back riding. This was amusing. The next day we visited a hospitable friend, Mr. Wilkenson, and his kind family to enjoy a lunch of meions in the old style on benches under the trees, from there we returned in a sail boat the Doctor had ordered to meet us at his neighbor's door. A delightful sail, then early dinner, and two carriages were provided for the party to take a long drive over a lovely country we had not seen, we were charmed. At the house of a gentleman miles away, I was put down, and with true regret parted from those four merry girls who went on to Tolchester.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Ellwanger & Barry, established 40 years ago, and are one of the most extensive and respectable houses in this country. See their advertisement on pages 41 and 45.

Jesse Haney & Co., New York. See advertisement, page 45.

George W. Park, Ohio. See advertisement, page 45.

John Saul, Washington, D. C., can furnish the ladies of Washington with beautiful flowers, and the whole country with the latest and most improved fruit trees and plants. See his advertisement, page 36.

Wm. Parry, can furnish the world with fruit and berries. See page 45.

Dufur & Co., we can speak from experience, make substantial work at reasonable prices. See page 43.

J. H. Haskell & Co., an old and reliable house, who keep the best goods in the market. We speak from experience in regard to their belting. See advertisement, page 38.

Dr. W. H. Parker, Boston. See advertisement, page 45.

Francis Brill, seed grower, New York. See advertisement, page 43.

The Brown Chemical Co., of Baltimore, one of the most extensive and reliable houses of their kind in Baltimore. Those in want of goods in their line will do well to call and see them. See advertisement, page 38.

Jacob Klein. No family need suffer with the cold this winter, if they patronize this firm for stoves and furnaces. See advertisement, page 44.

The Carrollton. This new and beautiful hotel is central for business men and travelers, and no house in this country is more comfortable as a home for the traveler, and especially for families. See advertisement, page 41.

Boykin, Carmer & Co., extensive dealers in pure chemicals. See advertisement on second page cover.

H. Stonebraker & Sons, manufacturers of powders, &c. See advertisement on second page cover.

The Proprietors of the Jennings System of Water Filtration in this city having met with very flattering success in the introduction of their large machines for filtering all the water supplied to a house, or to the largest steam boiler, will offer to the Baltimore public a line of small filters, adapted in size and price to the wants of the masses. One style being adapted to fit *Water Coolers* for office use; another style to any ordinary faucet, and still another style for domestic use, and costing but a few dollars. The general use of a good water filter would be greatly conducive to the general health of the community at large, to say nothing of the comfort and luxury of a clean, transparent water, free from all sediment, color and smell. See Ad. 3rd page cover

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL CONGRESS.—The semi-annual meeting of the National Agricultural Congress occurs at Rochester, N. Y., commencing September 15. The bi-annual meeting of the American Pomological Society occurs the same week and at the same place. Thus visitors will have an opportunity of attending the sessions of both these important National organizations. The following named hotels will receive members at the annexed rates:—Osborn House, \$3.00 per day; Whitcomb House, Clinton Hotel, and the National Hotel, each, \$2.00 per day. Committee of local arrangements, George Ellwanger, Rochester; James Vick, Rochester; H. E. Hooker, Rochester. Executive committee, Thos. P. Janes, President, Atlanta, Ga.; Jonathan Periam, Secretary, Chicago, Ills.; Ezra Whitman, Treasurer, Balto. Md.

We very much regret that we have not the space in this number to give the interesting report we have received from the tri-State pic-nic and fair, William's Grove, Pa. We have much other important matter crowded out, which will appear in our next.